United Nations

Resolutions
and
Decisions

adopted by the General Assembly during its fifty-seventh session

Volume I

Resolutions

10 September – 20 December 2002

General Assembly
Official Records • Fifty-seventh Session
Supplement No. 49 (A/57/49)

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United Nations • New York, 2003

NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly are identified as follows:

Regular sessions

Until the thirtieth regular session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed by a roman numeral in parentheses indicating the session (for example: resolution 3363 (XXX)). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter placed between the two numerals (for example: resolution 3367 A (XXX), resolutions 3411 A and B (XXX), resolutions 3419 A to D (XXX)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the thirty-first session, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of General Assembly documents, resolutions and decisions have been identified by an arabic numeral, indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution 31/1, decision 31/301). When several resolutions or decisions were adopted under the same number, each of them has been identified by a capital letter placed after the two numerals (for example: resolution 31/16 A, resolutions 31/6 A and B, decisions 31/406 A to E).

Special sessions

Until the seventh special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letter "S" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 3362 (S-VII)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the eighth special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letter "S" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution S-8/1, decision S-8/11).

Emergency special sessions

Until the fifth emergency special session, the resolutions of the General Assembly were identified by an arabic numeral followed, in parentheses, by the letters "ES" and a roman numeral indicating the session (for example: resolution 2252 (ES-V)). The decisions were not numbered.

Since the sixth emergency special session, resolutions and decisions have been identified by the letters "ES" and an arabic numeral indicating the session, followed by an oblique stroke and another arabic numeral (for example: resolution ES-6/1, decision ES-6/11).

In each of the series described above, the numbering follows the order of adoption.

* * *

The present volume contains the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly from 10 September to 20 December 2002, as well as the information requested by the Assembly in section C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 54/248 of 23 December 1999. Decisions adopted by the Assembly during this period appear in volume II. Resolutions and decisions adopted subsequently during the fifty-seventh session will be published in volume III.

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RESOLUTION 57/1

Adopted at the 1st plenary meeting, on 10 September 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

57/1. Admission of the Swiss Confederation to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 24 July 2002 that the Swiss Confederation should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[1]

Having considered the application for membership of the Swiss Confederation,[2]

Decides to admit the Swiss Confederation to membership in the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 57/2

Adopted at the 11th plenary meeting, on 16 September 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.2/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/2. United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The General Assembly

Adopts the following Declaration:

United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development

1. We, heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly held on 16 September 2002, considered how to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[3] which is a programme of the African Union. This meeting forms part of the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[4] at this, the fifty-seventh session of the Assembly.

2. We reaffirm our commitment to the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000,[5] and the internationally agreed development goals as the embodiment of our collective desire for and aspiration to a better world in which all peoples can live in dignity and peace.

3. We recommit ourselves to meeting the special needs of Africa as recognized in the Millennium Declaration, the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[6] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted on 22 March 2002,[7] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of

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[1] A/57/259.

[2] A/56/1009-S/2002/801, annex.

[3] A/57/304, annex.

[4] Resolution 46/151, annex, sect. II.

[5] See resolution 55/2.

[6] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 29.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Implementation"), adopted at the Summit on 4 September 2002.[8]

4. We welcome the New Partnership for Africa's Development, as an African Union-led, -owned and -managed initiative, and recognize that it is a serious commitment to addressing the aspirations of the continent, as decided by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001.

5. We welcome the commitment of African countries to take effective and concrete measures, inter alia, through the establishment of various institutional mechanisms and the development of strategies, for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development. This commitment reflects the recognition that the primary responsibility for the implementation of the New Partnership rests with the African Governments and peoples.

6. We affirm that international support for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development is essential. While acknowledging the support so far expressed or provided for the New Partnership, we urge the United Nations system and the international community, in particular donor countries, to assist with the implementation of the New Partnership.

7. We call upon the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly for the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s to consider how the United Nations will structure its support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development and take decisions to this effect.

RESOLUTION 57/3

Adopted at the 20th plenary meeting, on 27 September 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.3 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/3. Admission of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to membership in the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having received the recommendation of the Security Council of 23 May 2002 that the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste should be admitted to membership in the United Nations,[9]

Having considered the application for membership of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste,[10]

Decides to admit the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to membership in the United Nations.

RESOLUTION 57/5

Adopted at the 31st plenary meeting, on 16 October 2002, by a recorded vote of 133 to 2, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.4, sponsored by the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Latvia

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[8] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[9] A/57/258.

[10] A/56/953-S/2002/558, annex.

57/5. Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, particularly those that call for the development of friendly relations among nations and the strengthening of cooperation in solving problems of an economic and social character,

Taking note of the opposition of the international community to unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures,

Recalling its resolutions in which it has called upon the international community to take urgent and effective steps to end unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures,

Gravely concerned over the continued application of unilateral extraterritorial coercive measures whose effects have an impact on the sovereignty of other States and the legitimate interests of their entities and individuals in violation of the norms of international law and the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Believing that the prompt elimination of such measures would be consistent with the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of the Agreement on the World Trade Organization,

Recalling its resolutions 51/22 of 27 November 1996, 53/10 of 26 October 1998 and 55/6 of 26 October 2000,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/6;[11]

2. *Reaffirms* that all peoples have the right to self-determination and that by virtue of that right they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

3. *Expresses its deep concern* at the negative impact of unilaterally imposed extraterritorial coercive economic measures on trade and financial and economic cooperation, including at the regional level, because they are contrary to recognized principles of international law and pose serious obstacles to the freedom of trade and the free flow of capital at the regional and international levels;

4. *Reiterates its call* for the repeal of unilateral extraterritorial laws that impose coercive economic measures contrary to international law on corporations and nationals of other States;

5. *Again calls upon* all States not to recognize or apply unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures imposed by any State, which are contrary to recognized principles of international law;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion".

RESOLUTION 57/6

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 4 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.9/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Egypt, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Kuwait, Morocco, Philippines, Senegal, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela

57/6. International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the Charter of the United Nations, including the purposes and principles contained therein, and especially the dedication to saving succeeding generations from the scourge of war,

Recalling the Constitution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which states that, "since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed",

Recalling also its previous resolutions on a culture of peace, in particular resolution 52/15 of 20 November 1997 proclaiming 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace, resolution 53/25 of 10 November 1998 proclaiming the period 2001–2010 as the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, and resolution 56/5 of 5 November 2001,

Reaffirming the Declaration[12] and Programme of Action[13] on a Culture of Peace, recognizing that they serve, inter alia, as the basis for the observance of the Decade, and convinced that the effective and successful observance of the Decade throughout the world will promote a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations,

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[11] A/57/179 and Add.1 and Corr.1.

[12] Resolution 53/243 A.

[13] Resolution 53/243 B.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[14] which calls for the active promotion of a culture of peace,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/66 of 26 April 2000, entitled "Towards a culture of peace",[15]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World,[16] including paragraph 28 thereof, which indicates that each of the ten years of the Decade will be marked with a different priority theme related to the Programme of Action,

Noting the relevance of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002, the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 7 September 2001, and the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, for the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, as well as the need to implement, as appropriate, the relevant decisions agreed upon therein,

Recognizing that all efforts made by the United Nations system in general and the international community at large for peacekeeping, peace-building, the prevention of conflicts, disarmament, sustainable development, the promotion of human dignity and human rights, democracy, the rule of law and good governance at the national and international levels contribute greatly to the culture of peace,

Taking into account the "Manifesto 2000" initiative of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization promoting a culture of peace, which has so far received over seventy-five million signatures of endorsement throughout the world,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/5,[17]

1. *Reiterates* that the objective of the International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010, is to strengthen further the global movement for a culture of peace following the observance of the International Year for the Culture of Peace in 2000;

2. *Invites* Member States to continue to place greater emphasis on and expand their activities promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, in particular during the Decade, at the national, regional and international levels and to ensure that peace and non-violence are fostered at all levels;

3. *Commends* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization for recognizing the promotion of a culture of peace as the expression of its fundamental mandate, and encourages it, as the lead agency for the Decade, to strengthen further the activities it has undertaken for promoting a culture of peace, including the dissemination of the Declaration[12] and Programme of Action[13] on a Culture of Peace and related materials in various languages across the world;

4. *Also commends* the relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the University for Peace, for their activities in further promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, including the promotion of peace education and activities related to specific areas identified in the Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, and encourages them to continue and further strengthen and expand their efforts;

5. *Encourages* the appropriate authorities to provide education, in children's schools, that includes lessons in mutual understanding, tolerance, active citizenship, human rights and the promotion of a culture of peace;

6. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to strengthen its efforts in furtherance of the objectives of the Decade, inter alia, by adopting its own programme of activities to complement the initiatives of Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations;

7. *Encourages* the involvement of the mass media in education for a culture of peace and non-violence, with particular regard to children and young people, including through the planned expansion of the Culture of Peace News Network as a global network of Internet sites in many languages;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue the communication and networking arrangements established during the International Year for providing an instant update of developments related to the observance of the Decade;

9. *Invites* Member States to observe 21 September each year as the International Day of Peace, as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/282 of 7 September 2001;

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[14] See resolution 55/2.

[15] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[16] A/56/349.

[17] See A/57/186 and Add.1.

10. *Also invites* Member States as well as civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to provide information to the Secretary-General on the observance of the Decade and the activities undertaken to promote a culture of peace and non-violence;

11. *Emphasizes* the significance of the plenary meetings on the item planned for its sixtieth session,[18] and in that regard encourages participation at a high level, and decides to consider, at an appropriate time, the possibility of organizing those meetings as close as possible to the general debate;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Culture of peace".

RESOLUTION 57/7

Adopted at the 43rd plenary meeting, on 4 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly for the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (A/57/468/Add.1)

57/7. Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/151 of 18 December 1991, the annex to which contains the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,

Also recalling its resolutions 48/214 of 23 December 1993 and 49/142 of 23 December 1994 on the New Agenda, resolution 51/32 of 6 December 1996 on the mid-term review of the implementation of the New Agenda and resolution 55/216 of 21 December 2000, in which it reaffirmed its decision to conduct in 2002 the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda,

Further recalling its resolution 56/218 of 21 December 2001, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly for the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s to conduct, during the fifty-seventh session of the Assembly, the final review and appraisal of the New Agenda and related initiatives on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General on the independent high-level quality evaluation, as well as on proposals by the Secretary-General on the modalities of the future engagement of the United Nations with the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and resolution 56/508 of 27 June 2002, by which it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee should meet in substantive session for three working days, from 24 to 26 September 2002,

Mindful of its resolution 56/511 of 15 August 2002, by which it decided on the organization of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly to consider how to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[19]

Bearing in mind the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development,[20]

Cognizant of the link between the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[21] in which the international community committed itself to addressing the special needs of Africa, and of the need to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those set out in the Millennium Declaration,

Mindful of the Brussels Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[22] the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[23] the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[24] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[25] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[26]

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the General Assembly for the Final Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[27]

Noting with satisfaction the contribution made by individual Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee,

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[18] See resolution 55/47, para. 13.

[19] A/57/304, annex.

[20] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 29.

[21] See resolution 55/2.

[22] A/CONF.191/11.

[23] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[24] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[25] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[26] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[27] See A/57/468 and Add.1.

Also noting with satisfaction that the Group of Eight, at its summit meeting held at Kananaskis, Canada, in June 2002, devoted part of its deliberations to the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which resulted in the adoption of a Group of Eight action plan for Africa,

I

Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s,[28] in particular the lessons learned about the New Agenda, as well as recommendations and proposals on the modalities for the future engagement of the United Nations with the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[19]

2. *Takes note* of the report on the independent evaluation on the New Agenda;[29]

3. *Expresses its disappointment* at the limited progress made in realizing the objectives of the New Agenda;

4. *Decides* to bring the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s to a close, and endorses the recommendation of the Secretary-General that the New Partnership for Africa's Development, as decided by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held in Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001, should be the framework within which the international community, including the United Nations system, should concentrate its efforts for Africa's development;

II

Support for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

5. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development as a programme of the African Union that embodies the vision and commitment of all African Governments and peoples for peace and development;

6. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[30] adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, held on 16 September 2002, to consider how to support the New Partnership, and takes note of the deliberations that took place on that occasion;[31]

7. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations system to organize support for African countries in accordance with the principles, objectives and priorities of the New Partnership in the new spirit of partnership;

8. *Recognizes* the importance and strongly encourages the involvement of the private sector and civil society in the implementation of the New Partnership;

III

Action by African countries and organizations

9. *Welcomes* the commitment of African countries to integrate the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development into their national policies and development planning frameworks, to maintain full ownership and leadership in developing and utilizing such policies and frameworks, and to mobilize domestic resources in support of the New Partnership;

10. *Also welcomes* the commitment of African countries to peace, security, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management, as well as their commitment to take concrete measures to strengthen mechanisms for conflict prevention, management and resolution as embodied in the New Partnership, as an essential basis for sustainable development in Africa, and in this context welcomes the ongoing efforts of African countries to develop further the African peer review mechanism which is an important and innovative feature of the New Partnership;

11. *Recognizes* the importance of establishing national focal points for the New Partnership within the governmental structures of African countries, with responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the New Partnership at the national level, serving as a repository of information, and fostering a coordinated response to the New Partnership by individual countries;

12. *Emphasizes* the need to build and strengthen human and institutional capacities at the national, subregional and regional levels in order effectively to implement the New Partnership in all its aspects, and the need to allocate resources to this end;

13. *Encourages* the further integration of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership into the programmes of the regional economic communities of Africa and other subregional and regional structures and organizations, as well as programmes in favour of the African least developed countries;

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[28] A/57/156 and Corr.1.

[29] A/AC.251/9.

[30] See resolution 57/2.

[31] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, 10th and 11th meetings (A/57/PV.10 and 11), and corrigendum.

14. *Also encourages* efforts to raise awareness of the New Partnership and to involve all African stakeholders, namely Governments, the private sector and civil society, including women's organizations as well as community-based organizations, in the implementation of the New Partnership;

15. *Welcomes* the commitment of African countries to promote and enhance the role of African women in all aspects of the implementation of the New Partnership and in achieving the objectives thereof;

IV

Action by the international community

16. *Urges* the developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards achieving the target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries, as internationally agreed, to implement effectively their commitment on official development assistance to the least developed countries, as contained in paragraph 83 of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Brussels on 20 May 2001,[22] and to commit a significant share of such assistance to African countries; encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively in helping to achieve development goals and targets; and underlines the importance of undertaking an examination of the means and time frames for achieving the goals and targets;

17. *Stresses* the need to find a durable solution to the problem of external indebtedness of the heavily indebted poor countries in Africa, including through debt cancellation and other arrangements, and in this regard also stresses the need to explore innovative mechanisms to address comprehensively the debt problem of low and middle-income African countries, bearing in mind that external debt relief can release resources that could be utilized in the successful implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, taking into account initiatives that have been taken to reduce outstanding indebtedness and the need to pursue vigorously and expeditiously debt relief measures, including within the context of the Paris Club and London Club and other relevant forums;

18. *Recognizes* the essential role of trade as an engine for economic development in Africa, and in this regard calls for improved market access for African exports within the framework of the Doha Ministerial Declaration,[24] without prejudging the outcome of the negotiations of the World Trade Organization, and also within the framework of preferential agreements, and in this regard calls upon developed countries to assist African countries in improving their capacity, including by the removal of supply-side constraints and the promotion of diversification, which is critical to enabling them to take full advantage of such opportunities, taking into account the need to provide market access for developing countries;

19. *Calls upon* developed countries that have not yet done so to work towards the objective of duty-free and quota-free access for all exports of the least developed countries, as envisaged in the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010;

20. *Also calls upon* developed countries to encourage and facilitate investment by their private sectors in Africa, to help African countries to attract investments and promote policies conducive to attracting investment, to encourage and facilitate the transfer of the technology needed to African countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, and to assist in building human and institutional capacities for the implementation of the New Partnership consistent with its priorities and objectives;

21. *Further calls upon* developed countries to channel financial, technical and other types of resources towards the priorities of the New Partnership, in particular infrastructural development, health services, education, water and agriculture, in accordance with the priorities determined by each African country, and to explore ways of generating new public and private innovative sources of finance for development purposes, provided that those sources do not unduly burden developing countries, particularly in Africa, and in this regard notes the proposal for the use of special drawing rights allocations for development purposes;

22. *Recognizes* the importance of South-South cooperation and the contribution that it can make to the implementation of the New Partnership, encourages in this regard other partners to support this type of cooperation, including, as appropriate, through triangular cooperation, and considers that South-South cooperation should be viewed not as a substitute for, but rather as a complement to, the support provided by developed countries;

23. *Calls upon* the private sector and civil society outside Africa to participate in and contribute to the implementation of the New Partnership in all its aspects, including through effective partnerships between the public and private sectors;

24. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, within respective mandates, to align its activities in Africa with the priorities of the New Partnership, in accordance with the priorities determined by each African country, and urges the scaling up of resources for this purpose;

25. *Also calls upon* the United Nations system to enhance its advocacy role and public information activities in support of Africa's development;

26. *Urges* the United Nations system, in coordinating its activities at the national, regional and global levels, to foster a coherent response, including through close collaboration with

bilateral donors in the implementation of the New Partnership in response to the needs of individual countries within the larger framework of the New Partnership;

27. *Welcomes* the actions already under way at the regional level to organize the activities of the United Nations system around thematic clusters covering the priority areas of the New Partnership, and in this regard urges the strengthening of this process as a means of enhancing the coordinated response of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership;

28. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies to strengthen further their existing coordination and programming mechanisms, in particular the Common Country Assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, as a means of enhancing support to African countries in the implementation of the New Partnership and in support of national poverty reduction strategies and in particular, where appropriate, the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers;

29. *Urges* the United Nations system to work closely with the African Union and other regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations to ensure the implementation of the programmes and priorities of the New Partnership;

30. *Encourages* the ongoing efforts of the United Nations system to enhance further the simplification and harmonization of its planning, programming, disbursement and reporting procedures at the national, subregional and regional levels so as to ease the burden on the limited capacities of African countries;

31. *Requests* the United Nations system to assist in the implementation of the New Partnership through the provision of continuing support for the efforts of African countries in human and institutional capacity-building at the national, subregional and regional levels and the mobilization of financial resources;

32. *Requests* the multilateral financial institutions to ensure that their support for Africa is compatible with the New Partnership;

33. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to strengthen its cooperation with the African Union and its Peace and Security Council and other African mechanisms in their efforts to resolve and prevent conflicts at the subregional and continental levels in order to ensure a solid basis for the implementation of the New Partnership, and in this regard welcomes the establishment of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa of the Security Council and of an ad hoc advisory group on African countries emerging from conflict, within the framework of the Economic and Social Council;

34. *Notes* the decision of the Secretary-General to give to his Special Adviser on Africa the responsibility of coordinating and guiding the preparation of reports of the United Nations Secretariat related to Africa, and also notes the decision to transfer the resources of the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries to the Adviser;

35. *Underscores* the need for a structure in the Secretariat in New York, at an appropriate level, which will review and report on support provided by the United Nations system and the international community for the New Partnership and on the coordinated implementation of outcomes of summit meetings and conferences as they relate to Africa, as well as coordinate global advocacy in support of the New Partnership, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to make proposals on the organization of such a structure within the framework of his proposals for the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

36. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to its role in respect of system-wide coordination, to consider how to support the objectives of the present resolution;

37. *Decides* to include a single, comprehensive item on the development of Africa, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", in the annual agenda of the General Assembly, beginning at its fifty-eighth session, and encourages the efforts being made towards clustering the items related to Africa's development;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit the first consolidated report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the basis of input from Governments, organizations of the United Nations system and the other stakeholders in the New Partnership, such as the private sector and civil society.

RESOLUTION 57/8

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 11 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.13/Rev.1, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

57/8. Open-ended Panel of the General Assembly on "Afghanistan: one year later"

The General Assembly,

Noting the important role played by the United Nations, including the Security Council, in the Afghan peace process,

Noting also that the items entitled "Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan" and "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security" will be considered by the General Assembly on 6 December 2002,

Convinced that an interactive dialogue on Afghanistan one year after the agreement reached among various groups in Bonn, Germany, would afford the international community an opportunity to take stock of the lessons learned in Afghanistan, as well as to enhance the discussions scheduled for 6 December 2002 in the General Assembly on Afghanistan, including on post-conflict reconstruction in Afghanistan and future United Nations activities in this regard,

Welcoming innovative approaches in the ongoing effort to revitalize the work of the General Assembly,

1. *Decides* to convene, on 18 November 2002, an open-ended panel of the General Assembly on Afghanistan, which will have two consecutive sessions, from 9 to 11 a.m. and from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.;

2. *Also decides* that the Open-ended Panel will have as its theme "Afghanistan: one year later";

3. *Further decides* that the first session of the Open-ended Panel will focus on political issues and the second session on economic issues;

4. *Decides* that the Open-ended Panel will be chaired by the President of the General Assembly and will have, for each session, a maximum of four panellists, selected by the President in consultation with the Member States;

5. *Also decides* that the President of the General Assembly will present a summary of the discussions of the Open-ended Panel at the beginning of the debate in the Assembly on 6 December 2002 on the items dealing with Afghanistan.

RESOLUTION 57/9

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 11 November 2002, by a recorded vote of 138 to 1, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.14 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Abstaining: Angola, Viet Nam

57/9. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency

The General Assembly,

Having received the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency for 2001,[32]

Taking note of the statement of the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[33] in which he provided additional information on the main developments in the activities of the Agency during 2002,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency in promoting the further application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes as envisaged in the statute of the Agency and in accordance with the inalienable right of States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[34] and other relevant internationally legally binding agreements that have concluded relevant safeguards agreements with the Agency to develop research, production and use of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes without discrimination and in conformity with articles I and II and other relevant articles of the Treaty, and with the objectives and purposes thereof,

Conscious of the importance of the safeguards system of the Agency and of the importance of the work of the Agency in the implementation of the safeguards provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and other international treaties, conventions and agreements designed to achieve similar objectives, as well as in ensuring, as far as it is able, that the assistance provided by the Agency or at its request or under its supervision or control is not used in such a way as to further any military purpose, as stated in article II of its statute,

Reaffirming that the Agency is the competent authority responsible for verifying and assuring, in accordance with the statute and the safeguards system of the Agency, compliance with its safeguards agreements with States parties undertaken in fulfilment of their obligations under article III, paragraph 1, of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, with a view to preventing diversion of nuclear energy from peaceful uses to nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, and also reaffirming that nothing should be done to undermine the authority of the Agency in this regard and that States parties that have concerns regarding non-compliance with the safeguards agreement of the Treaty by the States parties should direct such concerns, along with supporting evidence and information, to the Agency to consider, investigate, draw conclusions and decide on necessary actions in accordance with its mandate,

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[32] International Atomic Energy Agency, *The Annual Report for 2001* (Austria, July 2002) (GC(46)/2); transmitted to the members of the General Assembly by a note by the Secretary-General (A/57/278).

[33] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, 46th meeting (A/57/PV.46), and corrigendum.

[34] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Stressing the need for the highest standards of safety in the design and operation of nuclear installations and in peaceful nuclear activities so as to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, and recognizing that a good safety record relies on good technology, good regulatory practices and well-qualified and trained staff, as well as international cooperation,

Noting that a demonstrated global record of safety is a key element for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and that continuous efforts are necessary to ensure that the human and technical elements of safety are maintained at the optimal level, and also noting that, although safety is a national responsibility, international cooperation on safety-related matters is indispensable,

Considering that an expansion of technical cooperation activities relating to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will contribute to the well-being of the peoples of the world, recognizing the special needs of the developing countries for technical assistance from the Agency and the importance of funding in order to benefit effectively from the transfer and application of nuclear technology for peaceful purposes as well as from the contribution of nuclear energy to their economic development, and desiring that the resources of the Agency for technical cooperation activities be assured, predictable and sufficient to meet the objectives mandated in article II of its statute,

Conscious that the work done by the Agency in the field of nuclear sciences and applications in the non-power sector contributes to sustainable development, especially with programmes aimed at enhancing agricultural productivity and food security, improving human health, increasing the availability of drinking water supplies and protecting the terrestrial and marine environment,

Recognizing the importance of the work of the Agency on nuclear power, the fuel cycle and nuclear science, nuclear techniques for development and environmental protection and nuclear safety and protection against radiation, including its work directed towards assisting developing countries in all these fields,

Welcoming the convening of the fifth Scientific Forum, during the forty-sixth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, on nuclear power – life cycle management; managing nuclear knowledge; and nuclear security,

Taking note of the report of the Director General to the General Conference of the Agency on the implementation of Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq,[35] of his report to the Security Council of 10 April 2002,[36] and of resolution GC(46)/RES/15 of 20 September 2002 of the General Conference,[37] noting with increasing concern that three and a half years have passed since the Agency has been able to implement its mandate in Iraq, and that the longer the suspension of Security Council resolution-related inspections in Iraq lasts, the more difficult it will be to re-establish a level of knowledge of the status of Iraq's nuclear-related assets comparable to that achieved at the end of 1998, and also noting the announced decision of the Government of Iraq to let the weapons inspectors return to Iraq without conditions,

Taking note also of resolution GC(46)/RES/14 in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the application of safeguards in connection with the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[38] noting with serious concern both the lack of tangible progress reflected in the report of the Director General[39] and the fact that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has still not allowed the Agency to implement the comprehensive safeguards agreement, noting ongoing political developments in north-east Asia, and expressing the hope that they may contribute to progress towards full implementation of the relevant agreements,

Taking note further of resolutions GC(46)/RES/9A on measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation and waste safety, GC(46)/RES/9B on transport safety, GC(46)/RES/9C on education and training, GC(46)/RES/9D on the Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident and the Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency, GC(46)/RES/10 on strengthening of the technical cooperation activities of the Agency, GC(46)/RES/11A on strengthening activities of the Agency related to nuclear science, technology and applications, GC(46)/RES/11B on nuclear knowledge, GC(46)/RES/11C on activities of the Agency in the development of innovative nuclear technology, GC(46)/RES/11D on support to the Pan African Tsetse and Trypanosomosis Eradication Campaign, GC(46)/RES/12 on strengthening the effectiveness and improving the efficiency of the safeguards system and the application of the Model Additional Protocol, GC(46)/RES/13 on nuclear security – progress on measures to protect against nuclear terrorism and GC(46)/RES/16 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the Agency at its forty-sixth regular session,

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[35] GC(46)/13.

[36] See S/2002/367.

[37] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC/(2002)).

[38] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/403.

[39] GC(46)/16.

Recalling resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference of the Agency with respect to article VI, adopted on 1 October 1999 by the General Conference,

Taking note of the statement by the President of the forty-sixth regular session of the General Conference of the Agency, which was endorsed by the General Conference at its ninth plenary meeting and issued under the item concerning Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat, that:

> "The General Conference recalls the statement by the President of the thirty-sixth session in 1992 concerning the item entitled 'Israeli nuclear capabilities and threat'. That statement considered it desirable not to consider that item at the thirty-seventh session. The General Conference also recalls the statement by the President of the forty-third session, in 1999, concerning the same agenda item. At the forty-fourth, forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions, the item was, at the request of certain member States, included again in the agenda. The item was discussed. The President notes that certain member States intend to include the item in the provisional agenda of the forty-seventh regular session of the General Conference",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the International Atomic Energy Agency;[32]

2. *Affirms its confidence* in the role of the Agency in the application of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes;

3. *Encourages* all States members of the Agency that have not yet done so to ratify the amendment to article VI of the statute of the Agency, recalling the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/19 on the amendment to article VI of the statute and the accompanying statement by the President of the forty-third regular session of the General Conference;

4. *Also encourages* all States members of the Agency that have not yet done so to ratify the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute of the Agency, recalling the adoption by the General Conference of the Agency of resolution GC(43)/RES/8 on the amendment of article XIV.A of the statute, which will provide for biennial budgeting by the Agency;

5. *Consistent* with the respective safeguards undertakings of member States and bearing in mind the importance of achieving the universal application of the safeguards system of the Agency, urges all States which have yet to bring into force comprehensive safeguards agreements to do so as soon as possible, affirms that measures to strengthen the effectiveness and improve the efficiency of the safeguards system with a view to detecting undeclared nuclear material and activities must be implemented rapidly and universally by all concerned States and other parties in compliance with their respective international commitments, stresses the importance of the safeguards system of the Agency, including comprehensive safeguards agreements and also the Model Additional Protocol, which are among the essential elements of the system, requests all concerned States and other parties to safeguards agreements which have not yet done so promptly to sign additional protocols, requests the States and other parties to safeguards agreements having signed additional protocols to take the necessary measures to bring them into force as soon as their national legislation allows, noting the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19, encourages the secretariat of the Agency and those member States implementing elements of the plan of action to continue their efforts in that regard, as appropriate and subject to the availability of resources, and to review the progress made in this regard, and recommends that other member States consider implementing elements of the plan of action, as appropriate, with the aim of facilitating the entry into force of comprehensive safeguards agreements and additional protocols, welcomes the completion by the Agency of the conceptual framework for integrated safeguards laid down in document GOV/2002/8, and requests the secretariat to implement integrated safeguards on a priority basis in an effective and cost-efficient manner, recognizing that elements of the conceptual framework will be further developed or refined in the light of experience, further evaluation and technological development;

6. *Urges* all States to strive for effective and harmonious international cooperation in carrying out the work of the Agency, pursuant to its statute, in promoting the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the application of the necessary measures to strengthen further the safety of nuclear installations and to minimize risks to life, health and the environment, in strengthening technical assistance and cooperation for developing countries and in ensuring the effectiveness and efficiency of the safeguards system of the Agency;

7. *Recalls* resolution GC(46)/RES/11C on the activities of the Agency in the development of innovative nuclear technology, emphasizes the unique role that the Agency can play in developing user requirements and in addressing safeguards, safety and environmental questions for innovative reactors and their fuel cycles, emphasizes the need for appropriate extrabudgetary funding and resources for the International Project on Innovative Nuclear Reactors and Fuel Cycles, and stresses the need for international collaboration in the development of innovative nuclear technology;

8. *Stresses* the need, in conformity with the statute of the Agency, to continue to pursue activities in the areas of nuclear science, technology and applications for meeting the basic sustainable development needs of member States, and also stresses the need to strengthen technical cooperation activities,

including the provision of sufficient resources, and to enhance continually the effectiveness and efficiency of the programmes;

9. *Recalls* resolution GC(46)/RES/10 on the strengthening of the technical cooperation activities of the Agency, welcomes the measures and decisions taken by the Agency to strengthen and fund its technical cooperation activities, which should contribute to achieving sustainable development in developing countries, and calls upon States to cooperate in contributing to and in implementing the measures and decisions pursuant thereto;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of all the measures contained in resolution GC(46)/RES/16 on the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East, and calls upon all States in the region to implement all the provisions contained therein, including the application of full-scope Agency safeguards to all their nuclear activities, adherence to international non-proliferation regimes and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region;

11. *Commends* the Director General and the secretariat of the Agency for their continuing, impartial efforts to implement the safeguards agreement still in force between the Agency and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, recognizes the important role of the Agency in monitoring the freeze of nuclear facilities in that country, as requested by the Security Council, notes with growing concern that, although the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[34] the Agency continues to be unable to verify the accuracy and completeness of the initial declaration of nuclear material it made and is therefore unable to conclude that there has been no diversion of nuclear material in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, reiterates its deep concern about the continuing non-compliance of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea with the safeguards agreement between that country and the Agency, again urges the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to comply fully and promptly with its safeguards agreement, inter alia, by taking all steps the Agency deems necessary to preserve all information relevant to verifying the accuracy and completeness of its initial declaration, strongly encourages the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to respond positively and without further delay to the detailed proposal of the Agency of May 2001 for the first concrete steps needed for verification of the accuracy and completeness of its initial declaration, and calls upon the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to begin promptly full cooperation with the Agency for the verification of the accuracy and completeness of its initial declaration, in view of the considerations contained in paragraph 6 of the report of the Director General[39] and the independent technical judgement, stated since 1999 by the Director General, that the work required would take three to four years, assuming full cooperation by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

12. *Also commends* the Director General of the Agency and his staff for their strenuous efforts to implement all the relevant Security Council resolutions relating to Iraq, calls upon Iraq to implement in full and without further delay all relevant Security Council resolutions, and in this regard to cooperate fully with the Agency and to provide immediate, unconditional, and unrestricted access to enable it to carry out its mandate, and stresses that, upon its return to Iraq, the Agency must resolve the key issue of whether Iraq's nuclear activities and capabilities have changed since December 1998;

13. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 24 October 1996 of the Convention on Nuclear Safety,[40] appeals to all States, particularly those operating, constructing, or planning nuclear power reactors, which have not yet taken the necessary steps to become parties to the Convention to do so, and notes with satisfaction the report of the second Review Meeting of the Contracting Parties to the Convention, particularly the conclusion that significant progress had been made since the first review meeting in the areas of legislation, regulatory independence, financial resources for regulators and operators, implementation of safety improvements in installations built to earlier standards, and emergency preparedness;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management[41] entered into force on 18 June 2001, and appeals to all States which have not yet taken the necessary steps to become parties to it to do so in time to attend the first review meeting of the contracting parties due to be held in November 2003;

15. *Recalls* resolution GC(46)/RES/9B on transport safety, urges States to participate in the 2003 International Conference on the Safety of Transport of Radioactive Material, with a view to addressing in a comprehensive way and following up as necessary all issues contained in the agreed conference programme, recalls maritime, river and air navigation rights and freedoms, as provided for in international law and as reflected in relevant international instruments, recalls that, under international law, States have the obligation to protect and preserve the marine environment, urges States to ensure that their national regulatory documents governing the transport of radioactive materials are in conformity with the latest edition of Agency transport regulations, encourages member States to avail themselves of the Transport Safety Appraisal Service, with a view to achieving the highest levels of safety during the transport of radioactive materials, welcomes the practice of some shipping States and operators of providing in a timely manner information and responses to relevant coastal States in advance of shipments for the purpose of addressing concerns regarding safety and security, including emergency preparedness, and invites others to do so, in order to improve mutual understanding and confidence regarding

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[40] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/449.

[41] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/546.

shipments of radioactive materials, noting that the information and responses provided should in no case be contradictory to the measures of physical protection and safety, emphasizes the importance of maintaining dialogue and consultation aimed at improving mutual understanding, confidence-building and enhanced communication in relation to the safe maritime transport of radioactive materials, stresses the importance of having effective liability mechanisms in place to ensure against harm to human health and the environment, as well as actual economic loss due to an accident or incident during the maritime transport of radioactive materials, and stresses the importance of wide adherence to the international nuclear liability regime established by the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage,[42] as amended in 1997, and related treaties;

16. *Also recalls* resolution GC(46)/RES/13 on nuclear security – progress on measures to protect against nuclear terrorism, commends the Director General and the secretariat for their prompt and constructive response to the requests made in resolution GC(45)/RES/14 relevant to the improvement of nuclear security (including the security of radioactive materials) and protection against nuclear terrorism, and in this context decides to bear in mind, in its continued drafting of an international convention on the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, those activities of the Agency, notes the arrangements implemented to provide funding for the Nuclear Security Fund through voluntary contributions, and calls upon all member States to continue to provide political, financial and technical support, including in-kind contributions, to improve nuclear security and prevent nuclear terrorism and to provide to the Nuclear Security Fund the political and financial support it needs, urges member States to strengthen their national efforts to secure all radioactive sources within their borders, invites member States to take note of the Code of Conduct on the Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources and to consider means of ensuring its wide application, invites all States to participate in the Illicit Trafficking Database Programme on a voluntary basis, welcomes the decision of the Director General to convene and maintain an Advisory Group on Security, appeals to States that have not yet done so to accede to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material,[43] but notes with concern the lack of progress made on the work of the open-ended group of legal and technical experts convened by the Director General in order to prepare a draft of a well-defined amendment aimed at strengthening the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material, calls for the early finalization of the negotiations on such an amendment, and takes note of the steps taken by the secretariat of the Agency to ensure confidentiality of information relevant to nuclear security;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Director General of the Agency the records of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to the activities of the Agency.

RESOLUTION 57/10

Adopted at the 47th plenary meeting, on 11 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.15/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

57/10. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/215 of 21 December 2001 and all previously adopted resolutions, as well as all relevant resolutions of the Security Council, regarding the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina,

Reaffirming its support for the independence, sovereignty, legal continuity and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, within its internationally recognized borders, and also reaffirming its support for the equality of the three constituent peoples and others in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a united country, with two multi-ethnic entities, according to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement"),[44]

Reiterating the importance of strengthening the rule of law, the functionality of the State institutions and the creation of a competitive, self-sustainable economy as the preconditions for the consolidation of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a modern democratic State and civic society working for the well-being of all its citizens,

Recognizing the results of the general elections at the State and entity level as the genuine and free choice of the electorate, looking forward to the swift formation of the new Government, and mindful of the fact that the parties participating in the elections are committed to the continuation of reforms, the strengthening of the rule of law and the determination of Bosnia and Herzegovina to fulfil its international obligations,

Welcoming the prioritizing and streamlining of the involvement of the international community in the reform process,

Noting the importance for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina that prosecutors successfully conclude their investigation of war crimes and the whereabouts of those still missing, as well as the importance of full cooperation with the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, especially with regard to surrendering all indicted war criminals to the Tribunal,

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[42] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1063, No. 16197.

[43] Ibid., vol. 1456, No. 24631.

[44] A/50/790-S/1995/999.

Reaffirming the importance for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina of its successful integration into Europe, noting in that regard its admission into the Council of Europe in April 2002, welcoming the progress made to date in meeting the conditions of the European Union Stabilization and Association Process, and stressing that the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe continues to provide an additional contribution to the improvement of regional cooperation,

Welcoming the further improvement of overall mutual cooperation and the positive evolution of bilateral relations between Bosnia and Herzegovina and its neighbouring States, Yugoslavia and Croatia, as set forth at the trilateral summit of the heads of State held in Sarajevo on 15 July 2002,

Noting that corruption and a lack of transparency seriously hamper the economic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, reaffirming the need to combat corruption, smuggling, human trafficking, organized crime and other illegal activities, welcoming in that regard the fact that the State Border Service recently took over the control of the entire border, and noting the preparations for the Conference on Organized Crime in South-Eastern Europe, which is to be held in London on 25 November 2002,

Welcoming the achievements, and encouraging further efforts, in reducing military assets, in continued cooperation with the multinational Stabilization Force, in view of enhanced security and with the aim of the future admission of Bosnia and Herzegovina into the Partnership for Peace,

Welcoming also the forthcoming transition from the International Police Task Force to the European Union Police Mission,

1. *Notes* that the ultimate responsibility for the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina lies with the State and entity authorities duly elected by its people, urges them to work jointly, rapidly and intently on judicial and economic reforms and the functioning of State institutions, refugee returns and all other issues of vital interest to all the citizens, with full respect for the rule of law, and welcomes the programme "Justice and Jobs" of the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina;

2. *Commends* the Independent Electoral Commission, the joint State institutions and all the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina for completing successfully the first post-war self-organized elections, as a positive example of the State's ability to function in a successful manner;

3. *Calls* for the full and early implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the annexes thereto (collectively the "Peace Agreement")[44] which is essential for stability and cooperation in the region and the reintegration of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

4. *Commends* the achievements of the former High Representative in implementing the Peace Agreement and for initializing and overseeing the negotiations for constitutional reforms in order to ensure the equality of the three constituent peoples throughout the country, and supports unreservedly the new High Representative, especially in his efforts to implement radical judicial and economic reforms and the rule of law, as well as his efforts in other areas, under the guidance of the Peace Implementation Council and in close cooperation with the State and entity authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina;

5. *Demands* that all the parties to the Peace Agreement fulfil their obligations to the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991, urges the States committed to cooperation with the Tribunal as parties to the Peace Agreement, in collaboration with the international security presence, to take decisive action to apprehend and extradite to the Tribunal all indicted, and encourages the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina to develop, in close cooperation with the international community, national court capacities to investigate and prosecute cases of lower profile war criminals;

6. *Welcomes* the prompt action of the State and entity institutions in adopting the comprehensive plan of action to prevent terrorist activities, increase security and protect people and property in Bosnia and Herzegovina and to secure sufficient funding for the State Border Service and the State Information Protection Agency, welcomes the active role of Bosnia and Herzegovina in global efforts against terrorism, and calls upon Bosnia and Herzegovina to work with the international community in that regard;

7. *Also welcomes* the steps already taken by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the breach of Security Council resolutions dealing with sanctions against Iraq, and demands the investigation and prosecution of those responsible in accordance with the obligations of the State deriving from all relevant Council resolutions;

8. *Reaffirms* the right of refugees and displaced persons to return voluntarily to their homes of origin in accordance with annex 7 of the Peace Agreement, encourages the acceleration of the peaceful, orderly and sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons to their place of pre-war residence, including to areas where they would be the ethnic minority, and calls upon all sides to ensure respect for individual rights to return and the establishment of the rule of law;

9. *Also reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives, and urges the authorities concerned to do

everything in their power to help elucidate the fate of all persons unaccounted for;

10. *Commends* the International Police Task Force for all its efforts, welcomes the successful completion of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina on 31 December 2002, and also welcomes the smooth transition to the European Union Police Mission, which will also work on reforming the police management structures in Bosnia and Herzegovina;

11. *Stresses* the need for a more comprehensive approach to implementing economic reforms, and underlines the fact that a self-sustainable, market-oriented economy operating in a single economic space, expeditious and transparent privatization, improved banking and capital markets, reformed financial systems and the elimination of bureaucratic obstacles, which deter private investment and private initiative, are of the utmost importance;

12. *Notes* the importance of defining the common defence policy and common command-control military structure of Bosnia and Herzegovina on the grounds of agreed principles, and affirms the importance of civilian control of the armies and the formation of a standing committee for military matters of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a step towards the establishment of a military structure of an appropriate size, based on future projections and the legitimate security needs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, which will contribute to regional security and stability;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts of international and regional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, working on mine-action activities, and calls upon Member States to continue to support those activities;

14. *Stresses* the importance of strengthening the free and pluralistic media, and deplores actions that seek to intimidate or restrict the freedom of the media;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of the restoration and rebuilding of the historical and cultural heritage of Bosnia and Herzegovina in its original form;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the rights of all national minorities in the country;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on United Nations activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina during the period from 1992 to 2002, in view of the experience gained and lessons learned, as a positive contribution to future United Nations operations, within existing resources.

RESOLUTION 57/11

Adopted at the 48th plenary meeting, on 12 November 2002, by a recorded vote of 173 to 3, with 4 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.5, sponsored by Cuba

57/11. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba

The General Assembly,

Determined to encourage strict compliance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in their internal affairs and freedom of international trade and navigation, which are also enshrined in many international legal instruments,

Recalling the statements of the heads of State or Government at the Ibero-American Summits concerning the need to eliminate the unilateral application of economic and trade measures by one State against another that affect the free flow of international trade,

Concerned at the continued promulgation and application by Member States of laws and regulations, such as that promulgated on 12 March 1996 known as the "Helms-Burton Act", the extraterritorial effects of which affect the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the freedom of trade and navigation,

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* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: Ethiopia, Malawi, Nicaragua, Uzbekistan

Taking note of declarations and resolutions of different intergovernmental forums, bodies and Governments that express the rejection by the international community and public opinion of the promulgation and application of regulations of the kind referred to above,

Recalling its resolutions 47/19 of 24 November 1992, 48/16 of 3 November 1993, 49/9 of 26 October 1994, 50/10 of 2 November 1995, 51/17 of 12 November 1996, 52/10 of 5 November 1997, 53/4 of 14 October 1998, 54/21 of 9 November 1999, 55/20 of 9 November 2000 and 56/9 of 27 November 2001,

Concerned that, since the adoption of its resolutions 47/19, 48/16, 49/9, 50/10, 51/17, 52/10, 53/4, 54/21, 55/20 and 56/9, further measures of that nature aimed at strengthening and extending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against Cuba continue to be promulgated and applied, and concerned also at the adverse effects of such measures on the Cuban people and on Cuban nationals living in other countries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 56/9;[45]

2. *Reiterates its call upon* all States to refrain from promulgating and applying laws and measures of the kind referred to in the preamble to the present resolution in conformity with their obligations under the Charter of the United Nations and international law, which, inter alia, reaffirm the freedom of trade and navigation;

3. *Once again urges* States that have and continue to apply such laws and measures to take the necessary steps to repeal or invalidate them as soon as possible in accordance with their legal regime;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the appropriate organs and agencies of the United Nations system, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution in the light of the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba".

RESOLUTION 57/12

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 14 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.10 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Mali, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Venezuela, Zimbabwe

57/12. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/48 of 29 November 2000,

Committed to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[46] and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences held and international agreements reached since 1992,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[47]

1. *Stresses* the need for a broad-based consensus for action within a comprehensive and holistic framework towards the achievement of the goals of development and poverty eradication involving all actors, namely Governments, the United Nations system and other international organizations and relevant actors of civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations;

2. *Notes with interest* the proposal regarding a new global human order;

3. *Calls* for further elaboration of the proposal, and in this regard invites Member States and other stakeholders to submit proposals for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order".

RESOLUTION 57/13

Adopted at the 50th plenary meeting, on 14 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.7, sponsored by: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay, Venezuela

57/13. South American zone of peace and cooperation

The General Assembly,

Convinced that peace, security and cooperation should be grounded in commitments that reinforce mutual trust and promote development and the overall well-being of peoples to the benefit of all humanity and, in particular, the peoples of South America,

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[45] A/57/264 and Add.1.

[46] See resolution 55/2.

[47] A/57/215.

Bearing in mind the initiatives of various Governments and regional groups in South America, such as the Andean Agreement on Peace, Security and Cooperation, contained in the Galapagos Declaration of 18 December 1989;[48] the Declaration of MERCOSUR, Bolivia and Chile as a Zone of Peace, signed in Ushuaia, Argentina, in July 1999; and the Lima Commitment and Andean Charter for Peace and Security, signed on 17 June 2002,[49]

Recalling the commitment undertaken in the Brasilia Communiqué issued on 1 September 2000[50] to create a South American zone of peace,

Recognizing that the bases and actions for a project on the creation of a South American zone of peace and cooperation, formulated at the first meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Andean Community, MERCOSUR and Chile, held in La Paz on 17 July 2001, constitute an appropriate set of guidelines for building the zone of peace and cooperation on firm foundations, supported by the consensus of the whole region and based, among various other measures, on the fostering of trust, cooperation and ongoing consultation in the areas of security and defence, coordinated action in the relevant international forums, and transparency and a gradual limitation of arms purchases under the system established in the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions,[51] the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and other arrangements established in the regional and international conventions related to this important topic,

Also recognizing the firm intent of the States of South America to adopt measures contributing to an effective and gradual limitation of defence expenditures in the region with the aim of having more resources available for the economic and social development of their peoples, in particular in order to devote the resources released from military budgets to combating poverty by moving forward with health and education programmes and other social benefits for inhabitants, taking into account each country's security needs and current levels of expenditure,

Recalling the principles and norms of international law enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of American States, especially those related to international peace and security,

Also recalling the important contribution of the United Nations in the sphere of international peace and security and, in that regard, the valuable input of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean with headquarters in Lima,

Convinced that the establishment of a zone of peace and cooperation in South America will help to strengthen international peace and security and promote the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

1. *Welcomes* the Declaration of the Presidents of South America, adopted at their second meeting, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on 27 July 2002, in which they declared South America a zone of peace and cooperation;[52]

2. *Commends* the decision of the States of South America to ban the use or threat of use of force among themselves, in keeping with the principles and relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Charter of the Organization of American States;

3. *Also commends* the decision of the States of South America to ban the siting, development, manufacture, possession, deployment, testing and use of any type of weapon of mass destruction, including nuclear, chemical, biological and toxic weapons, and their transport through the countries of the South American region, in accordance with the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco)[53] and other international conventions on the matter;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the commitment of the States of South America to establishing a gradual system that will lead, in the shortest time possible, to the complete eradication of anti-personnel mines in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[54] and to implementing the recommendations of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[55]

5. *Welcomes* the desire of the States of South America to promote transparency and a gradual limitation of arms purchases under the system established in the Inter-American Convention on Transparency in Conventional Weapons Acquisitions,[51] the United Nations Register of Conventional

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[48] See CD/1011.

[49] See CD/1678; see also A/C.1/57/4, annex.

[50] A/55/375, annex I.

[51] See CD/1591.

[52] See CD/1684.

[53] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[54] See CD/1478.

[55] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

Arms and other arrangements established in the regional and international conventions related to this important topic;

6. *Urges* all States of the other regions, particularly weapons-producing States, to cooperate decisively in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons throughout the region of South America;

7. *Calls upon* the States of the other regions to contribute to and cooperate with the objectives set forth in the Declaration regarding a South American zone of peace and cooperation.

RESOLUTION 57/33

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.19 and Add.1, sponsored by: Chile, Cyprus, Jamaica, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Nauru, New Zealand, Samoa, Uruguay

57/33. Plenary meetings of the General Assembly on 9 and 10 December 2002 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea[56] was opened for signature on 10 December 1982,

Recognizing the personalities who served as officers of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea or who otherwise contributed untiringly towards the conclusion of the Convention and its adoption on 30 April 1982,

Recalling its resolution 56/12 of 28 November 2001, in which it decided to devote two days of plenary meetings at its fifty-seventh session, on 9 and 10 December 2002, to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the Convention, and encouraged Member States and observers to be represented at the highest possible level,

Decides to adopt the organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings on 9 and 10 December 2002 as outlined in the annex to the present resolution.

Annex

Organizational arrangements for the plenary meetings of the General Assembly on 9 and 10 December 2002 devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea" and to the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

1. Three plenary meetings of the General Assembly shall be held on 9 and 10 December 2002, as follows:

(*a*) One plenary meeting, on 9 December 2002, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., shall be devoted to the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the opening for signature of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(*b*) Two plenary meetings, on 10 December 2002, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., shall be devoted to the consideration of the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

2. The list of speakers in the commemoration shall be as follows:

(*a*) Dr. Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, former President of Malta, to pay special tribute to the late Ambassador Arvid Pardo of Malta;

(*b*) Ambassador Tommy Koh, President of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea;

(*c*) Chairpersons of the five regional groups;

(*d*) Ambassador Don MacKay, President of the twelfth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;

(*e*) Mr. Martin Belinga-Eboutou, President of the Assembly of the International Seabed Authority;

(*f*) Mr. Satya N. Nandan, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority;

(*g*) Judge Gilbert Guillaume, President of the International Court of Justice;

(*h*) Judge Dolliver Nelson, President of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea;

(*i*) Mr. Peter F. Croker, Chairman of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf.

3. Statements in the commemoration shall be limited to ten minutes.

4. Two informal panels shall be held in parallel on 9 December 2002, from 3 to 6 p.m., and shall be organized as follows:

(*a*) Both informal panels shall include the participation of non-governmental organizations and academia;

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[56] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

(*b*) The overall theme for both informal panels shall be "The Dynamism of the Convention: challenges for the present and solutions for the future";

(*c*) The sub-themes for Informal Panel 1 shall be "The International Seabed Authority: an institution to manage the common heritage of mankind", "Limits in the seas: the need to establish secure maritime boundaries" and "Settlement of disputes: a linchpin of the Convention"; the sub-themes for Informal Panel 2 shall be "Implementation of the Convention: the challenge to ensure the effectiveness of its rules (role of non-State actors/regional approach)", "The emerging concepts for the development and strengthening of the legal regime for the oceans (ecosystem-based approach, marine protected areas and oceans stewardship)" and "The tools for change: the amendment procedure";

(*d*) Informal Panel 1 shall be chaired by Ambassador Cristián Maquieira (Chile) and shall have the following panellists: Mr. Satya N. Nandan, Secretary-General of the International Seabed Authority, Mr. Rolf Fife (Norway) and Judge Hugo Caminos (Argentina), International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; Informal Panel 2 shall be chaired by Ambassador Hasjim Djalal (Indonesia) and shall have the following panellists: Judge José Luis Jesus (Cape Verde), International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, Mr. Michael Bliss (Australia) and Professor Bernard Oxman (United States of America).

RESOLUTION 57/34

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.11 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Canada, Georgia, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine

57/34. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/5 of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its resolution 55/211 of 20 December 2000, on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling further the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the Charter signed at the summit meeting in Yalta, Ukraine, on 5 June 1998, which entered into force on 1 May 1999, thus transforming the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization into a regional economic organization with an international legal identity, as well as the declarations adopted by the heads of State or Government of its member States at the summit meetings held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 17 November 1999 and 25 June 2002,

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 55/211,[57]

1. *Takes note* of the results of the summit meeting of heads of State or Government of the member States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Istanbul on 25 June 2002;

2. *Encourages* efforts within the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to consider ways and means of enhancing its contribution to the strengthening of security and stability in the region;

3. *Welcomes* the activities of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at strengthening regional cooperation in various fields, such as trade and economic development, banking and finance, communications, energy, transport, agriculture and agro-industry, health care and pharmaceuticals, environmental protection, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among Customs services, and combating organized crime and the illicit trafficking of drugs, weapons and radioactive material, all acts of terrorism and illegal migration, or in any other related area;

4. *Takes note* of the adoption of the Economic Agenda of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and its implementation, as well as the decision on the establishment of the Project Development Fund of the organization;

5. *Encourages* the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives, particularly the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, the South-East European Cooperation Process, the Central European Initiative, the Adriatic and Ionian Initiative and the South-East Europe Cooperation Initiative, and expresses its appreciation of the results of the coordinating meeting of these regional institutions;

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[57] A/57/87.

6. *Welcomes* the signing in Istanbul, on 2 July 2001, of the Cooperation Agreement between the Economic Commission for Europe and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the support given by the Commission to the activities of the organization in the fields provided for in the aforementioned Agreement;

7. *Also welcomes* the signing in Istanbul, on 20 February 2002, of the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the support provided by the Programme to the activities of the organization;

8. *Further welcomes* the cooperation and coordination between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as the financial support provided by the Food and Agriculture Organization for the project of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on institutional strengthening to facilitate intraregional and interregional agricultural trade among member States of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

9. *Takes note* of the cooperation between the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in the elaboration of the joint venture model contracts for small and medium-sized enterprises;

10. *Also takes note* of the importance attached by the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the strengthening of relations with the European Union, and supports the efforts of the Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the organization to take concrete steps to advance this cooperation;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to consult with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the two secretariats;

12. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue consultations and programmes with the organization and its associated institutions for the attainment of their objectives;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/35

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.16 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, United States of America, Viet Nam, Yemen

57/35. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of South-East Asian Nations

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the aims and purposes of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, as enshrined in the Bangkok Declaration of 8 August 1967, in particular the maintenance of close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organizations with similar aims and purposes,

Noting with satisfaction that the activities of the Association are consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the cooperation between the Association and the United Nations system,

Welcoming also the participation of the Association in the high-level meetings between the United Nations and regional organizations, including the fourth meeting, held in New York on 6 and 7 February 2001,[58]

1. *Encourages* both the Association of South-East Asian Nations and the United Nations to increase contacts and to further identify areas of cooperation, as appropriate;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of South-East Asian Nations".

RESOLUTION 57/36

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.18 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: China, Cyprus, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Mongolia, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda

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[58] See S/2001/138.

57/36. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 36/38 of 18 November 1981, 37/8 of 29 October 1982, 38/37 of 5 December 1983, 39/47 of 10 December 1984, 40/60 of 9 December 1985, 41/5 of 17 October 1986, 43/1 of 17 October 1988, 45/4 of 16 October 1990, 47/6 of 21 October 1992, 49/8 of 25 October 1994, 51/11 of 4 November 1996, 53/14 of 29 October 1998 and 55/4 of 25 October 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[59]

Having heard the statement[60] made by the Secretary-General of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization[61] on the steps taken by the Consultative Organization to ensure continuing, close and effective cooperation between the two organizations,

Acknowledging in particular the close interaction between the Consultative Organization and the Sixth Committee,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[59]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing efforts of the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization towards strengthening the role of the United Nations and its various organs in enhancing the rule of law and wider adherence to related international instruments;

3. *Also notes with satisfaction* the commendable progress achieved towards enhancing cooperation between the United Nations, its agencies, other international organizations and the Consultative Organization;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Consultative Organization aimed at strengthening the efforts of the United Nations in respect of issues such as combating corruption, international terrorism and trafficking, as well as human rights issues;

5. *Also notes with appreciation* the initiative and efforts the Consultative Organization has undertaken to promote the objectives and principles set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[62] including wider acceptance of treaties deposited with the Secretary-General;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Consultative Organization;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/37

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.21 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Fiji, Greece, Grenada, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America

57/37. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/41 of 7 December 2001,

Noting with satisfaction the report of the Secretary General,[63]

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in addressing international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the Pacific Islands Forum, established in 1971, is to promote regional cooperation among its members through trade, investment, economic development and political and international affairs,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts towards closer cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum and its associated institutions,

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the assistance given by the United Nations towards the maintenance of peace and security in the Pacific Islands Forum region,

Welcoming also the fact that in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted in its resolution 55/2 of

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[59] A/57/122.

[60] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, 56th meeting (A/57/PV.56), and corrigendum.

[61] Formerly known as the Asian-African Legal Consultative Committee.

[62] See resolution 55/2.

[63] A/57/475.

8 September 2000, heads of State and Government resolved to address the special needs of small island developing States by implementing the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[64] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,[65]

Recognizing that the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[66] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[67] recently reaffirmed the special needs of small island developing States and called for an international meeting in 2004[68] to review the Barbados Programme of Action,[64]

Taking note of the communiqué of the thirty-third meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Suva from 15 to 17 August 2002,[69]

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Pacific Islands Forum in the areas of economic and social development, as well as in political and humanitarian affairs,

Mindful of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum,[63] as well as his efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the Pacific Islands Forum, to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations in order to increase the capacity of the organizations to attain their common objectives;

3. *Recommends* that further consultations be undertaken by the secretariats of the Pacific Islands Forum and the United Nations to develop contacts and promote cooperative activities in a more structured, regular and transparent manner, including an examination of the option of formalizing cooperation and coordination between the two organizations in the future;

4. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, in consultation with the Pacific Islands Forum, to implement the framework for cooperation in peace-building adopted at the fourth high-level meeting between the United Nations and regional organizations in 2001[70] by developing long-term peace-building programmes to address the security threats in the Pacific Islands Forum region;

5. *Urges* specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Pacific Islands Forum and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives;

6. *Invites* initiatives from Member States to assist in the cooperation efforts between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum".

RESOLUTION 57/38

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.22 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan

57/38. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 48/2 of 13 October 1993, by which it granted observer status to the Economic Cooperation Organization,

Recalling also the resolutions previously adopted by the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization, and inviting various specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system and relevant international financial institutions to join in their efforts towards realization of the goals and objectives of the Economic Cooperation Organization,

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[64] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[65] See resolution S-22/2.

[66] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[67] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[68] Ibid., para. 61.

[69] A/57/331, annex.

[70] See S/2001/138.

Bearing in mind the progress made by the Economic Cooperation Organization both in terms of launching and implementing various regional development projects and programmes in its first ten years of existence,

Welcoming the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization with regard to consolidating its ties with the United Nations system and relevant international and regional organizations towards the furtherance of its objectives and the promotion of international cooperation in resolving international economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 56/44 of 7 December 2001,[71] and expresses satisfaction at the enhanced pace of mutually beneficial interaction between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

2. *Notes* the change of political dispensation in Kabul and the ending of civil war in Afghanistan, lauds the commitment of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to provide financial and technical support to the Government of Afghanistan for the impending reconstruction work, as well as for launching projects in the fields of transport, communication, trade, management, drug control and the resettlement of refugees returning home;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption of the Islamabad Declaration on Agricultural Cooperation among States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization at the first ministerial meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization on agriculture, held in Islamabad from 23 to 25 July 2002, which lays the groundwork for strengthening food security efforts in the region, expresses its appreciation of the ongoing cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization in preparing a regional strategy for agricultural development and food security for the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and encourages the active participation of the Food and Agriculture Organization in the activities of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

4. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Economic Cooperation Organization in promoting the integration of the Economic Cooperation Organization member States into the multilateral trading system, keeping in view the areas of concern of the member States, particularly in the fields of trade, energy, transport, communication and transfer of technology;

5. *Takes note* of the Istanbul Declaration 2002, adopted at the seventh Economic Cooperation Organization summit, held following the twelfth meeting of the Council of Ministers in Istanbul, Turkey, from 11 to 14 October 2002;

6. *Welcomes* the holding of the first meeting of the Business Forum, organized with the cooperation and assistance of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, which was held alongside the seventh summit as a new mechanism to promote intraregional trade;

7. *Takes note* of the decision to hold in 2002 the second Economic Cooperation Organization ministerial meeting on energy/petroleum, the first Economic Cooperation Organization ministerial meeting on the environment and the fourth ministerial meeting on transport and communications;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the ongoing cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the Economic Cooperation Organization under the capacity-building project of the secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

9. *Also notes with satisfaction* the increasing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Trade Organization, and expresses its appreciation of the holding in Bishkek in 2002 of a joint Economic Cooperation Organization and World Trade Organization seminar on regionalism;

10. *Notes with appreciation* the successful implementation of the ongoing project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the International Trade Centre on expanding intraregional trade;

11. *Welcomes* the growing cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organization and relevant international financial institutions with regard to their financial assistance in the fields of transport, energy and privatization, in particular that of the Islamic Development Bank for the joint projects of the Economic Cooperation Organization, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on the introduction of multimodal transport operations, as well as for the Economic Cooperation Organization project on the interconnection and parallel functioning of power systems within its region;

12. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization to launch an international passenger train and container train on the route connecting Almaty, Tashkent, Tehran and Istanbul on the Trans-Asian Railway main line, which will contribute significantly to the restoration of some arteries of the Great Silk Route;

13. *Notes with concern* the increasing problem of the production, transit and abuse of narcotic drugs and their ill effects in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization, observes with appreciation the commencement of phase D of the joint project of the Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme on strengthening the Drug Control Coordination Unit within the

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[71] A/57/119.

secretariat of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and calls upon other international and regional organizations to assist the Economic Cooperation Organization, as appropriate, in its efforts to fight the drug menace in the region;

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the expansion of cultural ties in the region under the auspices of the Cultural Institute of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and supports its endeavours to promote the rich cultural and literary heritage of the region through appropriate projects and programmes, with possible assistance from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant regional and international entities;

15. *Also notes with satisfaction* the efforts of the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization in the field of science and technology for the development of the region, including the establishment of the Science Foundation of the Economic Cooperation Organization;

16. *Recognizes* the significance of environmental issues such as air and water pollution in the region of the Economic Cooperation Organization, and welcomes the efforts made by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to hold a workshop on trade and environment for States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization, under its capacity-building task force project with the United Nations Environment Programme;

17. *Invites* the United Nations system, its relevant bodies and the international community to continue to provide technical assistance, as appropriate, to the States members of the Economic Cooperation Organization and to its secretariat in order to strengthen their early warning systems, preparedness and capacity for timely response and rehabilitation, with a view to reducing human casualties and mitigating the socio-economic impact of natural disasters, including earthquakes, famines and floods;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts of the Economic Cooperation Organization to implement the United Nations programmes for the development of transit transport facilities in the landlocked countries of the region;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/39

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.24 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, Venezuela

57/39. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/98 of 14 December 2001 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[72]

Bearing in mind the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System,[73] in which the parties agree to strengthen and expand their cooperation in matters that are of common concern in the fields of their respective competence pursuant to their constitutional instruments,

Noting that cooperation between the Latin American Economic System and the United Nations has been evolving and diversifying over the years with regard both to the areas of cooperation and the organizations involved,

Welcoming the continued monitoring of changes in the treatment of topics relating to the United Nations system, in close contact with the delegations of the Member States participating in such deliberations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[72]

2. *Urges* the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to continue deepening its coordination and mutual support activities with the Latin American Economic System;

3. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to continue and intensify their support for, and cooperation in the activities of, the Latin American Economic System;

4. *Urges in particular* the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Health Organization and the Pan-American Health Organization, and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to deepen their ties of cooperation with the Latin American Economic System and to contribute to joint actions to achieve the Millennium goals in Latin America and the Caribbean;

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[72] A/57/128.

[73] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1651, No. 1061.

5. *Reiterates its request* to both the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System to assess, at the appropriate time, the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System[73] and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/40

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.25 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Angola, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Gambia, Morocco, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Sudan

57/40. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/22 of 10 November 2000, 55/161 of 12 December 2000 and 56/39 of 7 December 2001 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States,

Bearing in mind the charter establishing the Economic Community of Central African States, by which the Central African countries have agreed to work for the economic development of their subregion, to promote economic cooperation and to establish a Common Market of Central Africa,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted on 8 September 2000 by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations,[74] and especially section VII thereof,

Noting that, at the ninth regular session of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Malabo on 24 June 1999, the heads of State and Government of the member States decided to resume the activities of the Community, in particular by incorporating a collective security component, and by providing it with sufficient financial and human resources to enable it to become a real tool for the integration of their economies and to foster the development of cooperation between their peoples, with the ultimate aim of making it one of the five pillars of the African community and of helping Central Africa to meet the challenges of globalization,

Bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[75]

Welcoming the establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa with a view to creating a climate of peace and security in the subregion and strengthening the rule of law essential to its development,

Welcoming also the efforts made by the Central African States, both on their own initiative and with the support of the international community, to focus on the difficulties afflicting this key region of Africa,

Commending the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States for their undertaking to strengthen arrangements for cooperation within the Community,

Noting with deep concern that despite its enormous potential which could make it one of the poles of development of the continent, Central Africa has yet to achieve the stability that would enable it to utilize its resources to the maximum benefit of its population in an equitable manner,

Welcoming the contribution made by the United Nations system to the efforts made at the national and subregional levels with a view to promoting the process of democratization, recovery and development in Central Africa,

Welcoming also the public meeting of the Security Council on 22 October 2002 devoted to strengthening cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region,[76]

Noting with satisfaction that as a result of the efforts of regional and subregional organizations, the subregion is gradually emerging from the conflicts that affect it, which offers an opportunity to build peace to be seized by all parties,

Emphasizing the need to mobilize significant resources to support demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes,

Welcoming, in this regard, the establishment of the World Bank Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Programmes,

Welcoming also the achievements of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

Noting with satisfaction the measures taken by the Economic Community of Central African States to combat the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS),

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[74] See resolution 55/2.

[75] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[76] S/PV.4630.

Noting the important contribution of women in the development process,

Emphasizing the urgency of reaching an appropriate solution to the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons in Central Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;[77]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have maintained or strengthened their cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States or have begun to cooperate with it with a view to achieving peace, security and development;

3. *Invites* the States Members of the United Nations and United Nations organs, organizations and agencies which have not yet established contact or relations with the Economic Community of Central African States to consider doing so in order to help the Community strengthen its capacities in the area of the maintenance of peace and security and reconstruction;

4. *Commends* the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Economic Community of Central African States;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of close cooperation between the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the Economic Community of Central African States;

6. *Once again requests* the international community to consider seriously increases in its financial, technical and material support to the Economic Community of Central African States to enable it to implement fully its programme of action and to respond to the needs of the subregion for reconstruction and recovery;

7. *Calls upon* all Member States and the international community to consider contributing to the efforts of the Economic Community of Central African States to achieve economic integration and development, promote democracy and human rights and consolidate peace and security in Central Africa and to implement the goals, targets and commitments of the United Nations conferences and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[74] in particular, to strengthen the role of women in the development process;

8. *Urges* the international community and the United Nations agencies to continue to provide those countries of the Economic Community of Central African States in which a process of national reconstruction is taking place with appropriate assistance to consolidate their efforts towards democratization and the consolidation of the rule of law and to support their national development programmes;

9. *Invites* the United Nations and the international community to coordinate their efforts to assist the Central African States in establishing demobilization, disarmament and reintegration programmes;

10. *Declares itself convinced* of the importance to conflict resolution of the implementation of global, integrated and concerted strategies on questions relating to peace, security and development, and aware of the value of international cooperation and efforts to restore and maintain peace, and emphasizes that the international community should continue to help those countries which receive refugees to meet the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

11. *Urges* the United Nations and the international community to help to strengthen the means existing in the region to ensure that the Economic Community of Central African States has the necessary capacity with regard to prevention, monitoring, early warning and peacekeeping operations;

12. *Invites* the United Nations system and the international community to support the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the Economic Community of Central African States, with the active participation of the private sector;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to enhance contacts with the Economic Community of Central African States with a view to encouraging cooperation between the United Nations system and the Community;

14. *Invites* the international community in this regard, in the light of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2002 on the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the Central African region in the maintenance of peace and security,[78] to consider supporting the Community in the area of economic integration and the implementation of its peace and security programmes, in particular the effective establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the Central African Early Warning System;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[77] A/57/266.

[78] S/PRST/2002/31; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2002–31 July 2003.*

RESOLUTION 57/41

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.26 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Dominica, Ecuador, Gabon, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Japan, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Zimbabwe

57/41. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/8 of 16 October 1991, 49/141 of 20 December 1994, 51/16 of 11 November 1996, 53/17 of 29 October 1998 and 55/17 of 7 November 2000,

Noting with satisfaction the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,[79]

Bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations on the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action and other activities consistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Bearing in mind also the assistance given by the United Nations towards the maintenance of peace and security in the Caribbean region,

Noting with satisfaction that the first general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system was held in New York on 27 and 28 May 1997, and that the second general meeting was held in Nassau on 27 and 28 March 2000,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999 and 55/203 of 20 December 2000, it recognized the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development,

Bearing in mind also that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, heads of State and Government resolved to address the special needs of small island developing States by implementing the Barbados Programme of Action[80] and the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly[81] rapidly and in full,

Noting that the World Summit for Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, considered the specific issues and problems facing small island developing States, and noting the call to convene a special meeting in 2004 to review the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action,

Also noting that the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly in resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001 recognized the Caribbean region as having the second-highest rate of infection after sub-Saharan Africa,

Affirming the need to strengthen the cooperation that already exists between entities of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community in the areas of economic and social development, as well as of political and humanitarian affairs,

Convinced of the need for the coordinated utilization of available resources to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community,[79] as well as efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Welcomes* the signing on 27 May 1997 by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community of a cooperation agreement between the secretariats of the two organizations;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in association with the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community, as well as the relevant regional organizations, to continue to assist in furthering the development and maintenance of peace and security within the Caribbean region;

4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and expand cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community in order to increase the capacity of the two organizations to attain their objectives;

5. *Urges* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community in order to initiate, maintain and increase consultations and programmes with the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions in the attainment of their objectives, with special attention to the areas and issues identified at the second general meeting, as set out in the report of the Secretary-General, as well as resolutions 54/225, 55/203, 55/2 and S-26/2 and the decision of the World

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[79] A/57/254.

[80] Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II).

[81] See resolution S-22/2.

Summit on Sustainable Development on the sustainable development of small island developing States;[82]

6. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Member States in assisting in the cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

7. *Recommends* that the third general meeting between representatives of the Caribbean Community and its associated institutions and of the United Nations system be held in New York in March 2003 in order to review and appraise progress in the implementation of the agreed areas and issues and to hold consultations on such additional measures and procedures as may be required to facilitate and strengthen cooperation between the two organizations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community".

RESOLUTION 57/42

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.28 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

57/42. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/4 of 22 October 1982, 38/4 of 28 October 1983, 39/7 of 8 November 1984, 40/4 of 25 October 1985, 41/3 of 16 October 1986, 42/4 of 15 October 1987, 43/2 of 17 October 1988, 44/8 of 18 October 1989, 45/9 of 25 October 1990, 46/13 of 28 October 1991, 47/18 of 23 November 1992, 48/24 of 24 November 1993, 49/15 of 15 November 1994, 50/17 of 20 November 1995, 51/18 of 14 November 1996, 52/4 of 22 October 1997, 53/16 of 29 October 1998, 54/7 of 25 October 1999, 55/9 of 30 October 2000 and 56/47 of 7 December 2001,

Recalling also its resolution 3369 (XXX) of 10 October 1975, by which it decided to invite the Organization of the Islamic Conference to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly and of its subsidiary organs in the capacity of observer,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[83]

Taking into account the desire of both organizations to continue to cooperate closely in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and scientific fields and in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental human rights and economic and social development,

Recalling the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations, its funds and programmes and specialized agencies and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, its subsidiary organs and its specialized and affiliated institutions,

Noting also the encouraging progress made in the ten priority areas of cooperation between the two organizations, as well as in the identification of other areas of cooperation between them,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its organs and institutions contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Welcoming the results of the general meeting of the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions, held in Vienna from 9 to 11 July 2002,

Noting with appreciation the determination of both organizations to strengthen further the existing cooperation by developing specific proposals in the designated priority areas of cooperation, as well as in the political field,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[83]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the active participation of the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the work of the United Nations towards the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to cooperate in their common search for solutions to global problems, such as questions relating to international peace and security, disarmament, self-determination, decolonization, fundamental

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[82] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2.

[83] A/57/405.

human rights, social and economic development and technical cooperation;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to continue to strengthen cooperation between the two organizations in areas of common concern and to review the ways and means of enhancing the actual mechanisms of such cooperation;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the continuing cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy and peacekeeping, and notes the close cooperation between the two organizations in peace-building and reconstruction and development in Afghanistan;

6. *Welcomes* the efforts of the secretariats of the two organizations to strengthen information exchange, coordination and cooperation between them in areas of mutual interest in the political field and their ongoing consultations with a view to developing the modalities of such cooperation;

7. *Also welcomes* the periodic high-level meetings between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, as well as between senior secretariat officials of the two organizations, and encourages their participation in important meetings of the two organizations;

8. *Encourages* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to expand their cooperation with the subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, particularly by negotiating cooperation agreements, and invites them to multiply the contracts and meetings of the focal points for cooperation in priority areas of interest to the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

9. *Urges* the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system, especially the lead agencies, to provide increased technical and other forms of assistance to the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions in order to enhance cooperation;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its subsidiary organs and specialized and affiliated institutions to serve the mutual interests of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, cultural and scientific fields;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the state of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference".

RESOLUTION 57/43

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.29 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Jordan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Morocco, Niger, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, Vanuatu, Viet Nam

57/43. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997, 54/25 of 15 November 1999 and 56/45 of 7 December 2001, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie brings together a considerable number of States Members of the United Nations, among which it promotes multilateral cooperation in areas of interest to the United Nations,

Bearing in mind the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Bearing in mind also that, according to its charter, the objectives of the International Organization of la Francophonie are to assist in the establishment and development of democracy, the prevention of conflicts and support for the rule of law and for human rights, the intensification of dialogue between cultures and civilizations, the establishment of closer ties among peoples through mutual knowledge and strengthening of their solidarity through multilateral cooperation activities with a view to promoting the growth of their economies,

Welcoming the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie to tighten its ties with the organizations of the United Nations system and with international and regional organizations with a view to attaining its objectives, *Noting with satisfaction* the commitment to multilateral cooperation in the search for solutions to the major international problems expressed by the heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language, at their ninth summit conference, held in Beirut from 18 to 20 October 2002, and their determination to extend the scope of francophone collaboration and cooperation in order to fight poverty and contribute to the emergence of a more equitable form of globalization that will bring progress, peace, democracy and human rights, in full respect for cultural and linguistic diversity, in the interests of the most vulnerable populations and the development of all countries,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 56/45,[84]

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the desire of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and tighten the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General,[84] and welcomes the increasingly close and productive cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the International Organization of la Francophonie is participating more actively in the work of the United Nations, to which it makes a valuable contribution;

3. *Welcomes* the fact that the ninth summit conference of la Francophonie was devoted to the dialogue of cultures as an instrument of peace, democracy and human rights, for greater solidarity among French-speaking countries in the interest of sustainable economic and social development;

4. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Organization of la Francophonie for the steps it has taken in recent years to promote dialogue between cultures and civilizations;

5. *Notes with great satisfaction* the progress made by the International Organization of la Francophonie with regard to its restructuring and the launching of numerous initiatives to prevent conflicts, promote peace and support democracy and the rule of law, as well as the implementation of various development projects and programmes in French-speaking areas;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;

7. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in United Nations activities, including the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under United Nations auspices;

8. *Commends* the International Organization of la Francophonie for its efforts in relation to conflict prevention, management and resolution, the promotion of human rights and the strengthening of democracy and the rule of law, as well as its action in favour of the development of multilateral cooperation among countries with French as a common language, particularly in the areas of economic, social and cultural development, and the promotion of new information technologies, and requests United Nations bodies to give it their support;

9. *Also commends* the high-level meetings held periodically between the secretariats of the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, and advocates the participation of those secretariats in major meetings of the two organizations;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue doing so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

11. *Recommends* to the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie that they should continue and intensify their consultations with a view to ensuring greater coordination in the areas of conflict prevention, peace-building, support for the rule of law and democracy and the promotion of human rights;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of electoral monitoring and assistance, and advocates the strengthening of cooperation between the two organizations in that area;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between representatives of the

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[84] A/57/358.

United Nations Secretariat and representatives of the secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary steps, in consultation with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two organizations;

15. *Invites* the specialized agencies and funds and programmes of the United Nations, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the Secretary-General of the International Organization of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty elimination, energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie".

RESOLUTION 57/44

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.30 and Add.1, sponsored by: Angola, Botswana, Eritrea, Gabon, Ireland, Lesotho Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/44. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 37/248 of 21 December 1982 and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions and decisions on the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community, including decision 56/443 of 21 December 2001,

Commending States members of the Community for demonstrating continued commitment to deeper and more formal arrangements for cooperation among themselves towards regional integration,

Recognizing the continued efforts to strengthen democracy, good governance, sound economic management, human rights and the rule of law and other positive developments in the region, including the consolidation of peace, through the creation of institutions to further regional integration, such as the Parliamentary Forum, the Electoral Forum and the Lawyers Association of the Community,

Welcoming the adoption of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[85] by the African Union and the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development[86] and the ongoing efforts of African countries for the further implementation of the New Partnership,

Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted on 22 March 2002,[87] and the need for adequate resources to enable the States members of the Community successfully to implement their programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty and achieving sustainable development,

Welcoming the efforts of the Community to make southern Africa a landmine-free zone,

Expressing concern about the very difficult humanitarian situation in countries of the region,

Noting with grave concern that adverse weather conditions have contributed to the drought currently affecting the region, in particular in rural areas,

Recognizing the valuable and effective economic and financial contribution the United Nations system and the international community have continued to make towards complementing national and subregional efforts to advance the process of democratization, rehabilitation, reconciliation and development in the region,

Welcoming the establishment of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa of the Security Council and of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict, within the framework of the Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming also the fact that the signing of the Ceasefire Agreement in Angola on 4 April 2002, resulted in the cessation of all hostilities and created unprecedented conditions for the resolution of all pending questions of the Lusaka Protocol[88] and its full completion,

Expressing its grave concern at the dire humanitarian situation in Angola, which is hampering national efforts towards economic rehabilitation and reconstruction as well as regional development projects, and bearing in mind that the main responsibility for improving the humanitarian situation and creating conditions for long-term development and poverty reduction in Angola lies with the Government of Angola with, where appropriate, the participation of the international community,

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[85] A/57/304, annex.

[86] See resolution 57/2.

[87] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[88] S/1994/1441, annex.

Expressing satisfaction over the initiatives to bring peace to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, launched by the Community in collaboration with the African Union, the United Nations and other entities, and recognizing that the Inter-Congolese Dialogue is an essential element of the peace process for the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Noting with satisfaction the efforts by the facilitator of the Inter-Congolese Dialogue, Sir Ketumile Masire, the former president of the Republic of Botswana, aimed at ensuring a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Welcoming with satisfaction the signing on 30 July 2002 of the Pretoria Agreement between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda,[89] under the auspices of President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa, in his capacity as chairman of the African Union, and the Secretary-General, and the signing on 6 September 2002 of the Luanda Agreement between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Uganda under the mediation of President José Eduardo dos Santos of Angola, as steps towards a durable peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Noting with concern the high prevalence in the region of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other communicable diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis, which have far-reaching social and economic consequences,

Recognizing the important role that women play in the development of the region,

Recognizing also the important role of civil society and the private sector in the development of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[90]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations funds and programmes as well as the international community for the financial, technical and material support given to the Southern African Development Community, welcomes in particular the financial and other contributions of the international community in response to the joint appeal launched by the Community and the United Nations in New York on 18 July 2002 for assistance to avert the humanitarian crisis in the region, and calls upon member countries, in particular the donor community, to continue their support to the United Nations humanitarian efforts in the region;

3. *Appeals* to the international community and to relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to continue providing, where appropriate, financial, technical and material assistance to the Community to support its efforts to implement fully its regional indicative strategic development plan, and to support the Community in the full implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[85]

4. *Calls upon* the States Members of the United Nations and the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system that have not yet established contact and relationships with the Community to explore the possibility of so doing;

5. *Appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to assist and support the Community in its efforts against landmines, and calls upon the States members of the Community to continue to strengthen their efforts in this regard;

6. *Also appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to support the Community's efforts, with the appropriate resources, in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[91] and in the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings, with specific emphasis on the enhancement of the role of women in the development process;

7. *Welcomes,* in this regard, the establishment by the Community of the Women in Business Network, aimed at empowering women by, inter alia, facilitating and enhancing their access to credit and training in business and technical skills;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to support the measures taken by the Community in addressing HIV/AIDS, including commitments and proposals for key future actions on the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS;

9. *Recalls* the primary responsibility of the States members of the Community to consolidate democracy, good governance, sound economic policy and the rule of law and to enhance the implementation of national development programmes, and recognizes efforts made in this regard;

10. *Strongly appeals* to the United Nations, its related bodies and the international community to cooperate with the Community and its member States in the implementation of appropriate policies for the promotion of the culture of democracy, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the strengthening of democratic institutions that will consolidate the broad participation of the people of the

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[89] S/2002/914, annex.

[90] A/57/94 and Add.1.

[91] See resolution 55/2.

Community on these issues in accordance with the purposes and principles of the New Partnership;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist the Angolan authorities, especially by providing humanitarian, financial and material assistance, in alleviating the suffering of the Angolan people, in particular children, women and the elderly, and calls upon the Angolan authorities to continue to allocate the necessary financial resources to implement economic and social policies and programmes that will improve the lives of the people of Angola;

12. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the United Nations, to continue to contribute to the promotion of peace and stability in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to assist in the rehabilitation and economic reconstruction of that country;

13. *Urges* all parties to the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement,[92] as well as the Pretoria Agreement[89] and the Luanda Agreement, to work towards their speedy and full implementation and to cooperate in this regard with the United Nations and the African Union;

14. *Emphasizes* the crucial need and importance of strengthening the role of the United Nations in the tasks of voluntary disarmament, demobilization and reintegration in contributing to lasting peace in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to assist those countries receiving refugees in coping with the resulting economic, social, humanitarian and environmental challenges;

16. *Appeals* to the United Nations and the international community to assist further in the strengthening of the region's capacity for sustainable water resource management and sanitation as well as to respond generously with respect to the drought situation in southern Africa, by supporting the region in its drought preparedness and management strategies;

17. *Expresses its support* to the economic reforms being implemented by States members of the Community, in pursuance of their shared vision of creating a regional economic community through deeper economic integration;

18. *Calls upon* the international community, in this regard, to support the creation of special economic zones and development corridors in the States members of the Community, with the active participation of the private sector, while recognizing the responsibilities and the ongoing efforts of the countries concerned to create the necessary environment, including the appropriate legal and economic framework for such activities;

19. *Also calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Community in capacity-building and in addressing the new challenges, opportunities and the consequences presented to the economies of the region arising from the process of globalization and liberalization;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community, to continue to intensify contacts aimed at promoting and harmonizing cooperation between the United Nations and the Community;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/45

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.31 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

57/45. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/42 of 7 December 2001 on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

Having received the annual report for 2001 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons[93] on the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,

1. *Takes note* of the annual report for 2001 of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons submitted by its Director-General on its behalf;

2. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons".

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[92] S/1999/815, annex.

[93] A/57/576.

RESOLUTION 57/46

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.32, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Bahrain, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

57/46. Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[94]

Recalling article 3 of the Pact of the League of Arab States,[95] which entrusts the Council of the League with the function of determining the means whereby the League will collaborate with the international organizations which may be created in the future to guarantee peace and security and organize economic and social relations,

Noting the desire of both organizations to consolidate, develop and enhance further the ties existing between them in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural, technical and administrative fields,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[96] in particular section VII, concerning cooperation with regional arrangements and organizations, and the "Supplement to An Agenda for Peace",[97]

Convinced of the need for more efficient and coordinated utilization of available economic and financial resources in order to promote the common objectives of the two organizations,

Recognizing the need for the further strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations for the realization of the common goals and objectives of the two organizations,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[94]

2. *Commends* the continued efforts of the League of Arab States to promote multilateral cooperation among Arab States, and requests the United Nations system to continue to lend its support;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the follow-up action taken by him to implement the proposals adopted at the meetings between the representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and other organizations of the United Nations system and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, including the sectoral meeting held at the headquarters of the League of Arab States in Cairo, from 18 to 20 June 2002, on the use of information technology in development;

4. *Requests* the Secretariat of the United Nations and the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States, within their respective fields of competence, to intensify further their cooperation for the realization of the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the strengthening of international peace and security, economic and social development, disarmament, decolonization, self-determination and the eradication of all forms of racism and racial discrimination;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and other organizations and agencies of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in order to enhance their capacity to serve the mutual interests and objectives of the two organizations in the political, economic, social, humanitarian, cultural and administrative fields;

6. *Calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system:

(*a*) To continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and among themselves, as well as with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations, in the follow-up of multilateral proposals aimed at strengthening and expanding cooperation in all fields between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

(*b*) To strengthen the capacity of the League of Arab States and of its institutions and specialized organizations to benefit from globalization and information technology and to meet the development challenges of the new millennium;

(*c*) To step up cooperation and coordination with the specialized organizations of the League of Arab States in the organization of seminars and training courses and in the preparation of studies;

(*d*) To maintain and increase contacts and improve the mechanism of consultation with the counterpart programmes, organizations and agencies concerned regarding projects and programmes in order to facilitate their implementation;

(*e*) To participate whenever possible with organizations and institutions of the League of Arab States in the execution and implementation of development projects in the Arab region;

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[94] A/57/386.

[95] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 70, No. 241.

[96] A/47/277-S/24111.

[97] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

(*f*) To inform the Secretary-General, not later than 6 June 2003, of the progress made in their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations and, in particular, of the follow-up action taken on the multilateral and bilateral proposals adopted at the previous meetings between the two organizations;

7. *Also calls upon* the specialized agencies and other organizations and programmes of the United Nations system to increase their cooperation with the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations in the priority sectors of energy, rural development, desertification and green belts, training and vocational education, technology, environment, information and documentation, trade and finance, water resources, development of the agricultural sector, empowerment of women, transport, communications and information, promotion of the role of the private sector and capacity-building;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in cooperation with the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to encourage periodic consultation between representatives of the Secretariat of the United Nations and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States in order to review and strengthen coordination mechanisms with a view to accelerating implementation of, and follow-up action on, the multilateral projects, proposals and recommendations adopted at the meetings between the two organizations;

9. *Recommends* that the United Nations and all organizations of the United Nations system make the greatest possible use of Arab institutions and technical expertise in projects undertaken in the Arab region;

10. *Reaffirms* that, in order to enhance cooperation and for the purpose of the review and appraisal of progress, a general meeting between representatives of the United Nations system and the League of Arab States should be held once every two years and that joint inter-agency sectoral meetings should also be convened on a biennial basis to address priority areas of major importance to the development of the Arab States, on the basis of agreement between the United Nations system and the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations;

11. *Also reaffirms* the importance of holding the next general meeting on cooperation between representatives of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and of the General Secretariat of the League of Arab States and its specialized organizations during 2003;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States".

RESOLUTION 57/47

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.38 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Yugoslavia

57/47. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[98] in which heads of State and Government resolved to strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recalling also its resolution 56/46 of 7 December 2001, in which it welcomed the ongoing efforts to explore ways in which a new and strengthened relationship might be established between the General Assembly and its subsidiary organs on the one hand and the Inter-Parliamentary Union on the other and encouraged Member States to continue their consultations with a view to adopting a decision thereon during the fifty-seventh session of the Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 3 September 2002,[99] which takes stock of cooperation between the two organizations over the past twelve months,

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General of 26 June 2001,[100]

Taking into consideration the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union of 1996,[101] which provides the foundation for current cooperation between the two organizations,

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[98] See resolution 55/2.

[99] A/57/375.

[100] A/55/996.

[101] A/51/402, annex.

Recalling the unique inter-State character of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts made by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to provide for a greater parliamentary contribution and enhanced support to the United Nations;

2. *Also welcomes* its resolution 57/32 of 19 November 2002, in which the Inter-Parliamentary Union was invited to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

3. *Decides* to allow the circulation in the General Assembly of official documents adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, on the understanding that no financial implications result for the United Nations and that this would not constitute a precedent for other organizations with observer status;

4. *Invites* the specialized agencies to consider adopting similar modalities for cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the various aspects of cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

6. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to take steps to ensure the full implementation of measures aimed at strengthening the relationship between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".

RESOLUTION 57/48

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.39 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/48. Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[102]

Recalling the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as all its resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity, including resolutions 55/218 of 21 December 2000 and 56/48 of 7 December 2001,

Bearing in mind the decisions and declarations adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its first ordinary session, held in Durban, South Africa, on 9 and 10 July 2002,[103]

Taking note of declaration ASS/AU/Decl. 1 (I), adopted on 10 July 2002 by the Assembly of the African Union at its first ordinary session, on the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, mandating the Implementation Committee of the New Partnership and its Steering Committee to elaborate further the Framework for the New Partnership to ensure the implementation of the Initial Action Plan,

Bearing in mind the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, contained in its resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002, and its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002, and welcoming the strong support the New Partnership has received on various occasions, in particular at the summit meeting of the Group of Eight, held in Kananaskis, Canada, on 26 and 27 June 2002, as a framework for promoting sustainable development and growth in Africa,

Taking note of decision AHG/Dec. 175 (XXXVIII), adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-eighth ordinary session, held in Durban on 8 July 2002, approving the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, thereby affirming the centrality of the process of the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa as a policy development forum, a framework for the advancement of common values and as a monitoring and evaluation mechanism for the African Union,

Acknowledging the need for continuing and closer cooperation between the United Nations system and the African Union in peace and security, political, economic, technical, cultural and administrative matters,

Emphasizing the importance of the effective, coordinated and integrated implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[104] and welcoming in this regard the commitments of Member States to respond to the special needs of Africa,

Stressing the importance of the Doha Development Agenda adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the

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[102] A/57/351 and Corr.1.

[103] On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[104] See resolution 55/2.

World Trade Organization, held in Doha from 9 to 13 November 2001,[105] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[106] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[107] for the attainment of the United Nations millennium development goals and the reduction of poverty in Africa,

Welcoming the close collaboration between the African Union, the United Nations and the international community in the global fight against terrorism, leading to the convening by the African Union of a high-level intergovernmental meeting on the prevention and combating of terrorism in Africa, which was held in Algiers from 11 to 14 September 2002,

Noting, in this regard, the proposed entry into force of the 1999 Algiers Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism,

Emphasizing the need to implement the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council, on the role of the United Nations in support of the efforts of African countries to achieve sustainable development, adopted on 18 July 2001,[108]

Taking note of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases, held in Abuja from 24 to 27 April 2001, and noting the mechanism for monitoring and reporting on its implementation,[109]

Emphasizing the need to implement urgently its resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001 containing the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted at its special session on HIV/AIDS, and acknowledging in this respect the commitments of Member States to address the special needs of Africa,

Bearing in mind the Declaration and the Plan of Action contained in the document entitled "A world fit for children", adopted at the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002,[110] and the African Common Position on Children, endorsed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held in Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[111]

Taking note of the Plan of Action for the African Decade of Disabled Persons, endorsed by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-sixth ordinary session, held in Durban from 28 June to 6 July 2002,

Also taking note of the Plan of Action on Drug Control and Illicit Drugs Trafficking and Abuse in Africa, endorsed by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-sixth ordinary session,

Acknowledging the contribution of the United Nations Liaison Office in strengthening coordination and cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations, as well as the need to consolidate it so as to enhance its performance,

Noting the efforts to be undertaken by the African Union and its organs and States members of regional economic bodies in the area of economic integration, and the need to accelerate the process of the full establishment and consolidation of the African Union so as to achieve sustainable development,

Noting also the progress made by the Organization of African Unity in developing the capacity of its Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, and acknowledging in this regard the assistance of the United Nations and the international community,

Noting further that the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council was adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its first ordinary session, and that it was decided by the Assembly that, pending the ratification and entry into force of the Protocol, the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution should remain valid,

Stressing the urgent need to address the plight of refugees and internally displaced persons in Africa, and noting in this context the efforts made to implement the recommendations of the Ministerial Meeting of the Organization of African Unity on Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Africa, held in Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,[112] as well as the endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session of the Comprehensive Implementation Plan, adopted at the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts, organized by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which was held in Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000,[113]

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[105] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[106] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[107] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[108] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/56/3/Rev.1), chap III, para. 29.

[109] OAU/SPS/ABUJA/3.

[110] See resolution S-27/2.

[111] See A/56/457, annex I, AHG/Dec. 170 (XXXVII).

[112] A/54/682, annex II.

[113] A/55/286, annex I, CM/Dec. 531 (LXXII), para. 8.

Recognizing the importance of developing and maintaining a culture of peace, tolerance and harmonious relationships based on the promotion of economic development, democratic principles, good governance, the rule of law, human rights, social justice and international cooperation, as reflected in the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Declaration on Democracy, Political, Economic and Corporate Governance of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,

Stressing the need to strengthen the African human rights system, and noting in this context the need to provide adequate support to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, to finalize the process leading to the establishment of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, and the implementation of the 1999 Grand Baie Declaration and Plan of Action on Human Rights in Africa,

Welcoming the continuing mobilization of resources by African countries and other sources for the activities of the African Union, and encouraging Member States to continue to cooperate with the African Union in that regard,

Recognizing the need to improve the coordination and harmonization of initiatives taken by the United Nations system relating to the development of Africa,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[102]

2. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations and, in this respect, the continuing participation in and constructive contribution of the African Union and its specialized agencies to the work of the United Nations, and calls upon the two organizations to enhance the involvement of the African Union in all United Nations activities concerning Africa;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Interim Chairman of the African Union to review the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity with a view to reflecting the establishment of the African Union;

4. *Also calls upon* the Secretary-General to involve the African Union and its organs closely in the implementation of the commitments contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[104] especially those that relate to addressing the special needs of Africa;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations Liaison Office with the African Union;

6. *Stresses* the need for closer cooperation and coordination between the African Union and the United Nations, and calls upon the United Nations system to continue to support the African Union on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Cooperation Agreement between the two organizations;

7. *Requests* the United Nations system, while acknowledging its primary role in the promotion of international peace and security, to intensify its assistance to the African Union, as appropriate, in strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, in particular in the following areas:

(*a*) Development of its early warning system, including the Situation Room of the Conflict Management Directorate;

(*b*) Training of civilian and military personnel, including a staff exchange programme;

(*c*) Regular and continued exchange and coordination of information, including between the early warning systems of the two organizations;

(*d*) Field missions of the African Union in its various member States, in particular in the area of communication and other related logistical support;

(*e*) Capacity-building for peace-building before and after the termination of hostilities on the continent;

(*f*) Support for the Peace and Security Council in taking humanitarian action on the continent in accordance with the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council;

8. *Urges* the United Nations system to examine the possibilities of assisting the African Union in the following areas:

(*a*) Mobilization of financial resources to support the African Union Peace Fund;

(*b*) Establishment of the Panel of the Wise;

(*c*) Establishment of a military staff committee;

(*d*) Creation of an African standby force;

9. *Urges* the United Nations to encourage donor countries, in consultation with the African Union, to contribute to adequate funding, training and logistical support for African countries in their efforts to enhance their peacekeeping capabilities, with a view to enabling those countries to participate actively in peacekeeping operations within the framework of the United Nations;

10. *Also urges* the United Nations to contribute, where appropriate, to the enhancement of the capacity of the African Union to deploy peace support missions;

11. *Requests* the United Nations system to extend full cooperation and support, as appropriate, to the African Union in the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa;

12. *Requests* the agencies of the United Nations system working in Africa to include in their programmes at the national, subregional and regional levels activities to support

African countries in their efforts to enhance regional economic cooperation and integration;

13. *Stresses* the urgent need for the United Nations and the African Union to develop close cooperation and concrete programmes aimed at addressing the problems posed by the proliferation of small arms and light weapons and anti-personnel mines, within the framework of the relevant declarations and resolutions adopted by the two organizations, including the Plan of Action on Landmines, adopted at the First Continental Conference of African Experts on Landmines, held at Kempton Park, South Africa, from 19 to 21 May 1997, the Bamako Declaration of 1 December 2000 on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons[114] and the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001;[115]

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to continue to cooperate with the African Union in the creation of its organs and the implementation of the protocols to the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community,[116] to intensify the coordination of regional programmes in Africa to ensure the effective harmonization of programmes with those of the African regional and subregional economic organizations and to contribute to creating a positive environment for economic development and investment;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to support the New Partnership for Africa's Development[117] and the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2001 of the Economic and Social Council,[108] and the enhancement of the capacity of African countries to take advantage of the opportunities offered by globalization and overcome the challenges it poses, as a means of ensuring sustained economic growth and sustainable development;

16. *Calls upon* the United Nations system, the African Union and the international community to intensify their cooperation in the global fight against terrorism through the implementation of the relevant international and regional treaties, protocols and other instruments on combating terrorism, noting in this regard the Plan of Action adopted in Algiers on 14 September 2002;

17. *Encourages* the United Nations system to effectively support the efforts of the African Union in urging the international community to duly implement the Doha Development Agenda,[105] including negotiations aimed at substantial improvements in market access to promote sustainable growth in Africa;

18. *Urges* the United Nations system to increase its support for Africa in the implementation of the declaration of the extraordinary summit meeting of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other related infectious diseases,[109] and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, so as to arrest the spread of these diseases, inter alia, through sound capacity-building in human resources;

19. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to implement the Plan of Action contained in the document entitled "A world fit for children", adopted at the special session of the General Assembly on children,[110] and to provide assistance, as appropriate, to the African Union and its member States in this regard;

20. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and other development partners to provide assistance, as appropriate, to the African Union and African Governments in the fight against the scourge of illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse;

21. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the African Union to develop a coherent and effective strategy, including through joint programmes and activities, for the promotion and protection of human rights in Africa, within the framework of the implementation of regional and international treaties, resolutions and plans of action adopted by the two organizations;

22. *Welcomes* the adoption by the States members of the African Union of the protocol establishing an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights to complement the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and encourages the finalization of the process leading to the establishment of the Court;

23. *Calls upon* all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to provide additional assistance, as appropriate, to the African Union and those Governments in Africa concerned with the problems of refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

24. *Urges* the United Nations system to speedily implement resolution 56/135 of 19 December 2001, on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa, and to effectively support African countries in their efforts to incorporate the problems of refugees into national and regional development plans;

25. *Also urges* the United Nations system to work towards ensuring the effective and equitable representation of

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[114] See A/CONF.192/PC/23.

[115] See A/CONF.192/15, para. 24.

[116] A/46/651, annex.

[117] A/57/304, annex.

African men and women at senior and policy levels at the respective headquarters of its organizations and in their regional fields of operation;

26. *Requests* the United Nations system to cooperate with the African Union and its member States in the implementation of appropriate policies for the promotion of the culture of democracy, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and the strengthening of democratic institutions which will enhance the popular participation of the peoples of the continent in these issues, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

27. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and invites the Bretton Woods institutions to support, within their respective mandates, and where necessary and possible to assist in the establishment of appropriate institutional structures of the African Union, including the Pan-African Parliament, the Court of Justice, the Economic, Social and Cultural Council and the Financial Institutions;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/49

Adopted at the 56th plenary meeting, on 21 November 2002, by a recorded vote of 128 to 1, with 3 abstentions,[*] on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.40, sponsored by Romania

[*] *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Cambodia, Ghana, Pakistan

57/49. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[118]

Taking note also of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization,[119]

Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/101

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.33 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

57/101. International cooperation and coordination for the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region of Kazakhstan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/169 M of 16 December 1997, 53/1 H of 16 November 1998 and 55/44 of 27 November 2000,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[120]

Recognizing that the Semipalatinsk nuclear testing ground, inherited by Kazakhstan and closed in 1991, remains a matter of serious concern for the people and Government of Kazakhstan with regard to its consequences for the lives and health of the people, especially children and other vulnerable groups, as well as for the environment of the region,

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[118] A/57/255.

[119] See A/57/255.

[120] A/57/256.

Conscious that the international community should pay due attention to the issue of the human, ecological and socio-economic dimensions of the situation in the Semipalatinsk region,

Recognizing the need to coordinate national and international efforts aimed at the rehabilitation of the health of the affected population and the environment in this region,

Bearing in mind the need for know-how in minimizing and mitigating radiological, health, socio-economic, psychological and environmental problems in the Semipalatinsk region,

Taking into consideration the results of the international conference on the problems of the Semipalatinsk region, held in Tokyo in 1999, which have promoted the effectiveness of the assistance provided to the population of the region,

Also taking into consideration the outcome of the international conference entitled "The Twenty-first Century: Towards a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World", held in Almaty on 29 and 30 August 2001,[121] which confirmed the necessity of urgent measures to be taken to improve the severe ecological and economic situation in the Semipalatinsk region,

Recognizing the contribution of different organizations of the United Nations system, donor States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to humanitarian assistance and the implementation of the projects aimed at the rehabilitation of the region,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[120] and the information about the measures taken to solve the health, ecological, economic and humanitarian problems and to meet the needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

2. *Stresses* the need for continuing international attention and extra efforts in solving problems with regard to the Semipalatinsk region and its population;

3. *Urges* the international community to provide assistance in the formulation and implementation of special programmes and projects of treatment and care for the affected population in the Semipalatinsk region;

4. *Invites* all States, relevant multilateral financial organizations and other entities of the international community, including non-governmental organizations, to share their knowledge and experience in order to contribute to the human and ecological rehabilitation and economic development of the Semipalatinsk region;

5. *Invites* all Member States, in particular donor States, relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system, including the funds and programmes, to participate in the rehabilitation of the Semipalatinsk region;

6. *Invites* the Secretary-General to pursue a consultative process, with the participation of interested States and relevant United Nations agencies, on modalities for mobilizing the necessary support to seek appropriate solutions to the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region, including those prioritized in the report of the Secretary-General;

7. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to enhance world public awareness of the problems and needs of the Semipalatinsk region;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session, under a separate sub-item, on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/102

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.41 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guinea, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/102. International assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola

The General Assembly,

Recalling all previous resolutions in which it called upon the international community to continue to render material, technical and financial assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola,

Recalling also that the Security Council, in resolution 922 (1994) of 31 May 1994 and in subsequent resolutions adopted as from 2001, the President of the Security Council, in statements on Angola, and the General Assembly, in all of its resolutions on international assistance for the economic rehabilitation of Angola, have, inter alia, called upon the international community to provide economic assistance to Angola,

Noting that the signing by the Government of Angola and the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola of the Memorandum of Understanding additional to the Lusaka

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[121] A/56/348, annex.

Protocol[122] on 4 April 2002 resulted in the cessation of all hostilities and created unprecedented conditions for the resolution of all pending questions in respect of the Lusaka Protocol[123] and full compliance with its provisions,

Bearing in mind that the main responsibility for improving the humanitarian situation and creating the conditions for long-term development and poverty reduction in Angola lies with the Government of Angola, together with, where appropriate, the participation of the international community,

Taking into account the initiatives taken by the Government of Angola to allocate the human, material and financial resources to improve the social and economic situation of the population and to address the humanitarian situation, and stressing the need to allocate more means to that end, with the cooperation of the international community,

Bearing in mind that the measures taken by the Government of Unity and National Reconciliation towards reconstruction, rehabilitation, social and economic stabilization, including the emergency measures, need to be strengthened in order to improve the precarious situation of some 4 million internally displaced people and other vulnerable groups, some 1.54 million of whom have having critical food needs,

Noting the urgent need to address as well as to increase national efforts and international support for humanitarian mine-action activities, the resettlement of internally displaced persons and the return of refugees, and the disarmament, demobilization, rehabilitation and reintegration of former combatants, as well as the reintegration of other vulnerable groups, so as to allow the country to tackle the social, economic and humanitarian crisis,

Recalling the first Round-Table Conference of Donors, held in Brussels from 25 to 27 September 1995, with a view to mobilizing funds for the Community Rehabilitation and National Reconciliation Programme and supporting the efforts made by the Government of Angola,

Welcoming the efforts made by donors and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to provide humanitarian, economic and financial assistance to Angola,

Welcoming also the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Angola, in accordance with Security Council resolution 1433 (2002) of 15 August 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the situation in Angola,[124]

Noting the logistical difficulties in the distribution of relief supplies to vulnerable populations, and urging the Government of Angola to ensure that humanitarian donations are cleared through the customs services in an expeditious manner,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary General to the Security Council on the situation in Angola;[124]

2. *Welcomes* the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding additional to the Lusaka Protocol,[122] which ended hostilities in the country and created unprecedented conditions for the reestablishment and consolidation of peace in Angola;

3. *Calls upon* the Government of Angola to continue to contribute to and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and to continue to work towards ensuring the maintenance of the peace and national security that are so necessary for the reconstruction, rehabilitation and economic stabilization of the country, and encourages the Government to continue to allocate the necessary financial resources for the achievement of these objectives;

4. *Appeals* to Member States and in particular the donor community to support the projects foreseen in the mid-term review of the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for 2002, estimated at 171,057,107 United States dollars, which are to be completed between September and December 2002 in order to assist, inter alia, the 4 million internally displaced people, 1.54 million of whom have critical food needs, and to be especially generous in their support for the United Nations Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for 2003;

5. *Notes* the commitment of the Government of Angola towards improving transparency and accountability in the management of public resources, and encourages the Government to increase its efforts to that end;

6. *Requests* all countries and international, regional and subregional financial institutions to provide their support to the Government of Angola, with a view to alleviating the humanitarian situation, consolidating peace, democracy and economic stability throughout the country, and permitting the successful implementation of the economic development programmes of the Government;

7. *Welcomes* the assistance provided by the Government of Angola and the international community to the quartering areas, and reiterates the importance of continuing to assist the demobilized population and their families, many of whom continue to require life-saving assistance;

8. *Urges* the Government of Angola to strengthen public administration, including the National Commission for Social and Productive Reintegration of the Displaced and Demobilized, to develop further a comprehensive resettlement and reintegration strategy, in cooperation with the international community, and to continue to implement its urban and rural

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[122] See S/2002/483, annex.

[123] S/1994/1441, annex.

[124] S/2002/834.

poverty alleviation programmes, with a view towards eradicating poverty and achieving sustainable development;

9. *Requests* the Government of Angola, the United Nations and the international financial institutions to take all necessary steps for the preparation and successful organization of an international donors conference in order to strengthen humanitarian and disaster relief assistance, including special economic assistance;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the international community, the United Nations system, funds and programmes, and the governmental and non-governmental organizations that are participating in humanitarian assistance programmes in Angola, including in mine-action activities, and appeals for their continued contribution in a manner complementary to that of the Government to humanitarian mine-action activities;

11. *Urges* the Government of Angola to take the lead in mobilizing funding for the expansion of programmes for humanitarian mine-action activities, and encourages international donors to contribute to these efforts;

12. *Expresses its profound gratitude* to donors and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes for the substantial assistance provided to Angola for the successful implementation of its economic development programme;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/103

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.42 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan

57/103. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and rehabilitation in Tajikistan

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/30 J of 25 April 1997, 52/169 I of 16 December 1997, 53/1 K of 7 December 1998, 54/96 A of 8 December 1999, 55/45 of 27 November 2000 and 56/10 of 27 November 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[125]

Welcoming the further progress made by Tajikistan during the past year in consolidating peace, stability and a secure environment in the country,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the United Nations played a successful and important role in the peace process, expressing the belief that the Organization should continue to provide assistance to Tajikistan in post-conflict peace-building, and welcoming in this regard the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building,

Noting with regret that the humanitarian situation has not improved, owing to the severe economic situation and the effects of drought, and that significant humanitarian needs continue to exist throughout Tajikistan,

Recognizing that the efforts of the Government and the assistance provided by the United Nations have been critical to covering immediate emergency needs and to mitigating the effects of the two-year drought on vulnerable households,

Recognizing also that the main humanitarian and rehabilitation objectives of the United Nations are to initiate a sustainable improvement in food security, improve access to primary health care and other basic social services, contribute to social rehabilitation, in particular through capacity-building within communities and the creation of employment opportunities, and combat drug trafficking and drug abuse,

Expressing concern that, despite the serious humanitarian situation in Tajikistan, the donor response to the 2002 consolidated appeals process has not yet reached its target, especially in such vital sectors as health, education and water sanitation in which needs are most crucial and for which urgent funding is needed,

Stressing that international funding for humanitarian operations is particularly important since such operations remain the principal means by which hundreds of thousands of Tajiks meet their basic needs,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[125]

2. *Welcomes* the continued role of the United Nations in post-conflict peace-building in Tajikistan and the efforts of the United Nations Tajikistan Office for Peace-building in this regard;

3. *Stresses* that the current phase of post-conflict peace-building requires continued international assistance for Tajikistan;

4. *Recognizes* that humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance remains crucial, not only to sustain life but also to promote development and prevent renewed conflict;

5. *Welcomes with appreciation* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General in drawing the attention of the international community to the acute humanitarian problems of

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[125] A/57/136.

Tajikistan and in mobilizing assistance for the post-conflict rehabilitation, recovery and reconstruction of the country;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, the United Nations, the European Union, the World Bank and other intergovernmental organizations and all relevant humanitarian organizations, agencies and non-governmental organizations, including the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, that have responded and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian needs of Tajikistan;

7. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue to provide assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs of Tajikistan through the consolidated appeals process and to offer support to Tajikistan for the post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of further cooperation and assistance from the authorities in facilitating the work of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations, welcomes in this regard the establishment of the Aid Coordination Unit in the Executive Office of the President of Tajikistan for the purpose of tracking international humanitarian assistance, and urges the authorities to continue to simplify and streamline without delay the relevant internal bureaucratic procedures and requirements for the delivery of humanitarian assistance;

9. *Warmly welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue the United Nations humanitarian programme in Tajikistan by issuing a consolidated inter-agency appeal for humanitarian assistance to Tajikistan for 2003, taking into account current developments in the region, and urges Member States to fund fully and in a timely manner programmes included in the appeal in order to meet the humanitarian needs of vulnerable populations in Tajikistan while the country moves ahead with peace-building and economic development;

10. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to re-evaluate all United Nations humanitarian assistance activities in Tajikistan with a view to preparing a common humanitarian strategy that would support the relief and recovery operations during the transitional period from relief to development, with a major focus on promoting self-reliance and sustainable development;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure the security and freedom of movement of humanitarian personnel, and of United Nations and associated personnel, as well as the safety and security of their premises, equipment and supplies;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-ninth session the question of the situation in Tajikistan under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance".

RESOLUTION 57/104

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.46 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Sao Tome and Principe, Seychelles, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/104. Assistance to Mozambique

The General Assembly,

Recalling Security Council resolution 386 (1976) of 17 March 1976,

Recalling also its relevant resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/227 of 21 December 1990, 47/42 of 9 December 1992, 49/21 D of 20 December 1994, 51/30 D of 5 December 1996, 53/1 G of 16 November 1998 and 55/167 of 14 December 2000, in which it urged the international community to respond effectively and generously to the call for assistance to Mozambique,

Recalling further the ten years of peace, stability, economic growth and development in Mozambique and the holding of a special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council on 4 October 2002 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the signing of the General Peace Agreement,[126] which ended the civil war in the country,

Reaffirming the principles for humanitarian assistance contained in the annex to its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997 on assistance in mine action, and stressing the need to foster the establishment of national mine action capacity with a view to enabling the Government of Mozambique to deal more effectively with the adverse effects of those weapons within the framework of the efforts for national reconstruction,

Recalling also its resolution 54/96 L of 10 March 2000 on assistance to Mozambique following the devastating floods,

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[126] S/24635 and Corr.1, enclosure, annex.

Deeply concerned at the unprecedented floods in Mozambique in 2000 and 2001, which have resulted in the tragic loss of human lives, extensive destruction of property and infrastructure and the dislodging and scattering of landmines,

Deeply concerned also at the severe drought affecting Mozambique and other countries of southern Africa, resulting in famine and poverty,

Deeply concerned further at the impact of natural disasters on the economic, social and humanitarian situation in Mozambique and at the aggravating effects of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic,

Recognizing that natural disasters constitute one of the major problems for the development of Mozambique,

Aware that, to prevent and manage natural disasters, strategies at the local, national and regional levels are required, in addition to international assistance,

Bearing in mind the Brussels Declaration[127] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[128] adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001, and the mutual commitments entered into on that occasion,

Noting with appreciation the mobilization and allocation of resources by States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist national efforts,

Noting with satisfaction the support by the international community of the post-emergency reconstruction programme presented by the Government of Mozambique,

Taking note of the donor conferences held in Rome on 3 and 4 May 2000 and in Maputo on 12 and 13 July 2001, with the aim of mobilizing financial resources for the reconstruction of the socio-economic infrastructure and assistance to the people affected by the floods,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[129]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[129]

2. *Welcomes* the positive role of the Government of Mozambique in the relief operations, in particular the close coordination between United Nations and Government efforts;

3. *Also welcomes* the assistance rendered to Mozambique by various States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and private individuals and groups to support national development efforts and post-emergency reconstruction programmes;

4. *Further welcomes* the ten years of peace, stability, economic growth and development in Mozambique, as well as the progress made in the consolidation of lasting peace and tranquillity, the enhancement of democracy and the promotion of national reconciliation in the country;

5. *Notes* the importance of international assistance for the reconstruction and development programmes in Mozambique, welcomes the pledges made by the development partners for those programmes, expresses its gratitude to the development partners that have already disbursed the pledged funds, and urges others to speed up the process;

6. *Urges* the international community to render its assistance to the drought victims and for setting up national, subregional, regional and international disaster prevention, preparedness and management mechanisms, including early warning systems;

7. *Also urges* the international community to continue supporting the efforts of the Government to fight the HIV/AIDS pandemic;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary arrangements to continue to mobilize and coordinate, with a view to supporting the efforts of the Government of Mozambique:

(*a*) Humanitarian assistance from the specialized agencies, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system;

(*b*) International assistance for the national reconstruction and development of Mozambique;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it, for consideration at its fifty-ninth session, under the item on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance, through the Economic and Social Council at the humanitarian segment of its substantive session in 2004, on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/105

Adopted at the 59th plenary meeting, on 25 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.47 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

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[127] A/CONF.191/12.

[128] A/CONF.191/11.

[129] A/57/97-E/2002/76.

57/105. Assistance for humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and development for Timor-Leste

The General Assembly,

Welcoming the independence of Timor-Leste on 20 May 2002, and commending its people and its leadership for achieving independence through peaceful and democratic means,

Recalling all of its relevant resolutions on the situation in Timor-Leste,

Recalling with satisfaction its resolution 57/3 of 27 September 2002 on the admission of Timor-Leste to membership in the United Nations,

Recalling all of the relevant Security Council resolutions and decisions on the situation in Timor-Leste, in particular resolution 1410 (2002) of 17 May 2002, which established the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor,

Acknowledging the crucial role of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor and the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in assisting the people of Timor-Leste in the transition towards independence,

Recognizing the essential role played by the international community, including the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations, in supporting the nation-building process of Timor-Leste leading towards independence,

Acknowledging the progress made in the transition from relief and rehabilitation to development in Timor-Leste, while noting continuing vulnerabilities, including the need to strengthen the preparedness and response capacity of the Government of Timor-Leste for addressing humanitarian emergencies, and the significant challenges of rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, in particular in the initial years of independence,

Emphasizing the need for continued international assistance to support the development of Timor-Leste in, inter alia, the education, health, agriculture, infrastructure, judicial, public administration and law enforcement sectors,

Welcoming the efforts of the Government of Indonesia and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in providing humanitarian assistance to the refugees of Timor-Leste in the province of East Nusa Tenggara, West Timor, in facilitating their return to and reintegration in Timor-Leste or in assisting with their local integration and resettlement, as appropriate, in Indonesia,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[130]

2. *Also welcomes* the commitment of the international community to meet the external requirements for rehabilitation, reconstruction and development activities for Timor-Leste;

3. *Urges* the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to continue to support the Government and people of Timor-Leste in their endeavours towards self-sustainable nation-building and in facing the remaining vulnerabilities and challenges, such as nationwide capacity-building in all sectors, national reconciliation and the return of refugees to Timor-Leste and sustainable development;

4. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the adoption of the first national development plan of Timor-Leste on 6 May 2002, which was the result of a participatory process and reflects the commitment of the Government of Timor-Leste to develop sustainable basic services;

5. *Acknowledges* that a transparent, effective and functioning democratic governmental administration is crucial to fostering a stable and secure social, economic and political environment in Timor-Leste, and in this regard urges the international community to continue to support efforts aimed at institution-building and the training of civil servants, in particular in the areas of public finances and senior management and in the development and maintenance of central and local administrative systems of government;

6. *Also acknowledges* the need to expedite the development of the justice sector of Timor-Leste, and in this regard urges further international support in the areas of law enforcement, the judiciary and the prison system;

7. *Welcomes* the continuing response of the international community to the need for food aid, and calls upon the United Nations, other intergovernmental organizations, Member States and non-governmental organizations to assist Timor-Leste in ensuring sustainable development in the areas of agriculture, livestock and fisheries;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress made in rehabilitating infrastructure, and recommends that outstanding infrastructure needs remain a focus of international assistance in such areas as the reconstruction and rehabilitation of public buildings, educational facilities, roads and public services, including water and sanitation and the supply of electricity;

9. *Commends* the continuous international response in providing health services to the general population, including the early deployment of immunization and disease prevention programmes and reproductive health-care and child nutrition programmes, while recognizing the need for further assistance

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[130] A/57/353.

to rebuild hospitals, train health-care professionals and enhance capacity-building to meet the challenges to public health posed by such diseases as tuberculosis, malaria and the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome;

10. *Welcomes* the progress made in the rehabilitation of schools, the supply and distribution of educational materials and teacher training, while emphasizing the need for capacity-building, particularly in the area of secondary and higher education, and for continued attention to the rehabilitation needs, including psychosocial support, of children affected by violence;

11. *Also welcomes* the growing participation of the women of Timor-Leste in all aspects of society, and encourages further efforts to address gender issues, including the needs for research, services and appropriate legislation in order to combat domestic violence and other gender-related crimes;

12. *Further welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the Commission for Reception, Truth and Reconciliation to facilitate national reconciliation and the return of refugees to Timor-Leste;

13. *Welcomes* the decision by the United Nations Development Programme to start disbursing funds from the Special Fund established for former employees and pensioners of the Government of Indonesia in East Timor, also welcomes the financial commitments and contributions made by the international community and the Government of Indonesia to it, and encourages them to consider increasing their contributions;

14. *Also welcomes* the establishment by Timor-Leste and Indonesia of the Joint Ministerial Commission for Bilateral Cooperation, which will facilitate consultation and cooperation between the two countries in all areas of common interest;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly for consideration at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/106

Adopted at the 61st plenary meeting, on 26 November 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.8 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/106. Follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/212 of 17 December 1985, in which it invited Governments to observe annually, on 5 December, an International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development,

Recalling also its resolution 52/17 of 20 November 1997, in which it proclaimed the year 2001 as the International Year of Volunteers, and its resolution 55/57 of 4 December 2000 on the observance of the International Year of Volunteers,

Recalling further and reaffirming its resolution 56/38 of 5 December 2001, which lays down recommendations for ways in which Governments and the United Nations system could support volunteering,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of volunteering, including traditional forms of mutual aid and self-help, formal service delivery and other forms of civic participation, to economic and social development, benefiting society at large, communities and the individual volunteer,

Recognizing also that volunteerism is an important component of any strategy aimed at, inter alia, such areas as poverty reduction, sustainable development, health, disaster prevention and management and social integration and, in particular, overcoming social exclusion and discrimination,

Recognizing further that volunteering, particularly at the community level, will help to achieve the development goals and objectives set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[131] and at other major United Nations conferences, summits, special sessions and their follow-up meetings,

Noting with appreciation the efforts to increase awareness of volunteerism through global information sharing and education, including efforts to develop an effective network for volunteers through, inter alia, the International Year of Volunteers web site[132] and linked national sites,

Acknowledging the existing contribution of the organizations of the United Nations system to supporting volunteering, including the work of United Nations Volunteers around the world,

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[131] See resolution 55/2.

[132] www.iyv2001.org.

Bearing in mind the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers to be pursued in the relevant parts of the United Nations system,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of and follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers, 2001;[133]

2. *Welcomes also* the successful observance of the International Year of Volunteers, 2001, with the support of one hundred and twenty-three national International Year of Volunteers committees and the many regional and city International Year of Volunteers committees with broad representation from Governments, international organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, recognizes the contribution of States and civil society organizations and alliances at the international, regional, national and local levels to such a success, and encourages this network to be maintained and expanded, as appropriate, with a view to further engaging all stakeholders, undertaking volunteer-related research, disseminating information and experiences, providing preparation and training to volunteers, particularly from developing countries, and forging new partnerships at all levels;

3. *Welcomes further* the various developments of policies and the enactment of legislations for the growth and development of volunteerism taken up as a result of the international year, and recommends that Governments continue to acknowledge the valuable role of volunteers and further support voluntary activities, including through appropriate policies and enabling legislation;

4. *Calls upon* Governments and the United Nations system to implement further the recommendations contained in the annex to its resolution 56/38, bearing in mind the economic significance of volunteering;

5. *Calls upon* Governments, with the active support of the media, civil society and the private sector, to observe 5 December, International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development, and to include activities focused on following up on the achievements of the International Year of Volunteers in its public awareness-raising campaigns;

6. *Reaffirms* the need to recognize and promote all forms of volunteerism as an issue that involves and benefits all segments of society, including children, young persons, older persons, persons with disabilities, minorities and immigrants and those who remain excluded for social or economic reasons;

7. *Invites* all stakeholders, especially from the private sector community and from private foundations, to support volunteerism as a strategic tool to enhance economic and social development, including by expanding corporate volunteering;

8. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations Volunteers, as the focal point for the International Year of Volunteers, as well as their role in the preparations and implementation of the Year, and requests them to continue their efforts, together with other stakeholders, to raise awareness of volunteerism, increase reference and networking resources available and provide technical cooperation to developing countries, upon their request, in the field of volunteerism;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Volunteers to develop a global Internet volunteer resource based on the International Year of Volunteers web site[132] and on national web sites with a view to enhancing network capabilities and to expanding information, knowledge and resource management, and encourages Governments and all stakeholders, in particular the private sector, to contribute on a voluntary basis to this initiative;

10. *Calls* for the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to integrate volunteerism in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, and encourages the recognition and inclusion of volunteer contributions in future United Nations and other relevant international conferences, such as the World Summit on the Information Society;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to factor such contributions made by volunteers in his reports on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration[131] and of other major United Nations conferences, summits, special sessions and their follow-up meetings;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take measures, in particular within the mandates and the existing resources of the United Nations Volunteers and the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, to ensure that the potential of the International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development in follow-up to the International Year of Volunteers is fully realized;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family".

RESOLUTION 57/107

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 109 to 4, with 56 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.34 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

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[133] A/57/352.

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana,

Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

57/107. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 3236 (XXIX) of 22 November 1974, 3375 (XXX) and 3376 (XXX) of 10 November 1975, 31/20 of 24 November 1976 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including those adopted by the General Assembly at its emergency special sessions and resolution 56/33 of 3 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[134]

Recalling the commencement of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the existing agreements between the two sides, beginning with the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[135] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Reaffirming that the United Nations has a permanent responsibility towards the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects in a satisfactory manner in accordance with international legitimacy,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly, and takes note of its annual report,[134] including the conclusions and recommendations contained in chapter VII thereof;

2. *Requests* the Committee to continue to exert all efforts to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to support the Middle East peace process and to mobilize international support for and assistance to the Palestinian people, and authorizes the Committee to make such adjustments in its approved programme of work as it may consider appropriate and necessary in the light of developments and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session and thereafter;

3. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to keep under review the situation relating to the question of Palestine and to report and make suggestions to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General, as appropriate;

4. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to extend its cooperation and support to Palestinian and other civil society organizations in order to mobilize international solidarity and support for the achievement by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights and for a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, and to involve additional civil society organizations in its work;

5. *Requests* the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, established under General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and other United Nations bodies associated with the question of Palestine to continue to cooperate fully with the Committee and to make available to it, at its request, the relevant information and documentation which they have at their disposal;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to circulate the report of the Committee to all competent bodies of the United Nations, and urges them to take the necessary action, as appropriate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Committee with all necessary facilities for the performance of its tasks.

RESOLUTION 57/108

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 108 to 4, with 56 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.35 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

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[134] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/57/35).

[135] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

* *In favour:* Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde,

Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

57/108. Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat

The General Assemb[illegible]

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[136]

Taking note in particular of the relevant information contained in chapter V.B of that report,

Recalling its resolution 32/40 B of 2 December 1977 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/34 of 3 December 2001,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Secretary-General in compliance with its resolution 56/34;

2. *Considers* that the Division for Palestinian Rights of the Secretariat continues to make a useful and constructive contribution;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Division with the necessary resources and to ensure that it continues to carry out its programme of work as detailed in the relevant earlier resolutions, in consultation with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and under its guidance, including, in particular, the organization of meetings in various regions with the participation of all sectors of the international community, the further development and expansion of the documents collection of the United Nations Information System on the Question of Palestine, the preparation and widest possible dissemination of publications and information materials on various aspects of the question of Palestine, and the provision of the annual training programme for staff of the Palestinian Authority;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the continued cooperation of the Department of Public Information and other units of the Secretariat in enabling the Division to perform its tasks and in covering adequately the various aspects of the question of Palestine;

5. *Invites* all Governments and organizations to extend their cooperation to the Committee and the Division in the performance of their tasks;

6. *Requests* the Committee and the Division, as part of the observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, to continue to organize an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations, and encourages Member States to continue to give the widest support and publicity to the observance of the Day of Solidarity.

RESOLUTION 57/109

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 159 to 5, with no abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.36 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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[136] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 35* (A/57/35).

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, United States of America

Abstaining: None

57/109. Special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People,[137]

Taking note in particular of the information contained in chapter VI of that report,

Recalling its resolution 56/35 of 3 December 2001,

Convinced that the worldwide dissemination of accurate and comprehensive information and the role of civil society organizations and institutions remain of vital importance in heightening awareness of and support for the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people,

Recalling the commencement of the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people, and the existing agreements between the two sides, beginning with the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993,[138] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the action taken by the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in compliance with resolution 56/35;

2. *Considers* that the special information programme on the question of Palestine of the Department is very useful in raising the awareness of the international community concerning the question of Palestine and the situation in the Middle East and that the programme is contributing effectively to an atmosphere conducive to dialogue and supportive of the peace process;

3. *Requests* the Department, in full cooperation and coordination with the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, to continue, with the necessary flexibility as may be required by developments affecting the question of Palestine, its special information programme for the biennium 2002–2003, in particular:

(*a*) To disseminate information on all the activities of the United Nations system relating to the question of Palestine, including reports on the work carried out by the relevant United Nations organizations;

(*b*) To continue to issue and update publications on the various aspects of the question of Palestine in all fields, including materials concerning the recent developments in that regard, in particular the prospects for peace;

(*c*) To expand its collection of audio-visual material on the question of Palestine and to continue the production and preservation of such material and the updating of the exhibit in the Secretariat;

(*d*) To organize and promote fact-finding news missions for journalists to the area, including the territory under the jurisdiction of the Palestinian Authority and the Occupied Territory;

(*e*) To organize international, regional and national seminars or encounters for journalists, aiming in particular at sensitizing public opinion to the question of Palestine;

(*f*) To continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people in the field of media development, in particular to strengthen the training programme for Palestinian broadcasters and journalists initiated in 1995.

RESOLUTION 57/110

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 160 to 4, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.37 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zimbabwe, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern

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[137] Ibid.

[138] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu

57/110. Peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at the tenth emergency special session,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 1397 (2002) of 12 March 2002,

Welcoming the affirmation by the Security Council of the vision of a region where two States, Israel and Palestine, live side by side within secure and recognized borders,

Noting that it has been fifty-five years since the adoption of resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947 and thirty-five years since the occupation of Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, in 1967,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to the request made in its resolution 56/36 of 3 December 2001,[139]

Reaffirming the permanent responsibility of the United Nations with regard to the question of Palestine until the question is resolved in all its aspects,

Convinced that achieving a final and peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, is imperative for the attainment of a comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East,

Aware that the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples is among the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by war,

Affirming also the illegality of the Israeli settlements in the territory occupied since 1967 and of Israeli actions aimed at changing the status of Jerusalem,

Affirming once again the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

Recalling the mutual recognition between the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[140] as well as the existing agreements concluded between the two sides, and the need for full compliance with those agreements,

Noting with satisfaction the establishment of the Palestinian Authority and the holding of the first Palestinian general elections, as well as the preparations being undertaken for the second elections,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, and its positive contribution,

Welcoming the convening of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, as well as all follow-up meetings and the international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Expressing its grave concern at the tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, since 28 September 2000 and the continued deterioration of the situation, including the rising number of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians, the deepening humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people and the widespread destruction of Palestinian property and infrastructure, both private and public, including many institutions of the Palestinian Authority,

Expressing its grave concern also at the repeated incursions into Palestinian-controlled areas and the reoccupation of many Palestinian population centres by the Israeli occupying forces,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians in the whole Middle East region, and condemning all acts of violence and terror against civilians on both sides,

Gravely concerned at the increased suffering and casualties on both the Palestinian and Israeli sides, the loss of confidence on both sides and the dire situation facing the Middle East peace process,

Affirming the urgent need for the parties to cooperate with all international efforts, including the efforts of the Quartet of the United States of America, the Russian Federation, the European Union and the United Nations, to end the current tragic situation and to resume negotiations towards a final peace settlement,

1. *Reaffirms* the necessity of achieving a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine, the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict, in all its aspects and of intensifying all efforts to that end;

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[139] A/57/621-S/2002/1268.

[140] See A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

2. *Also reaffirms* its full support for the Middle East peace process, which began in Madrid, and the existing agreements between the Israeli and Palestinian sides, stresses the necessity for the establishment of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and welcomes in this regard the efforts of the Quartet;

3. *Welcomes* the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States at its fourteenth session, held in Beirut on 27 and 28 March 2002;[141]

4. *Stresses* the necessity for a commitment to the vision of the two-State solution and the principle of land for peace, as well as the implementation of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 1397 (2002);

5. *Also stresses* the need for a speedy end to the reoccupation of Palestinian population centres and for the complete cessation of all acts of violence, including military attacks, destruction and acts of terror;

6. *Calls upon* the concerned parties, the Quartet and other interested parties to exert all efforts and initiatives necessary to halt the deterioration of the situation and to reverse all measures taken on the ground since 28 September 2000, and to ensure the successful and speedy resumption of the peace process and the conclusion of a final peaceful settlement;

7. *Stresses* the need for:

(*a*) The withdrawal of Israel from the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967;

(*b*) The realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, primarily the right to self-determination and the right to their independent State;

8. *Also stresses* the need for resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees in conformity with its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948;

9. *Urges* Member States to expedite the provision of economic, humanitarian and technical assistance to the Palestinian people and the Palestinian Authority during this critical period to help to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people, rebuild the Palestinian economy and infrastructure and support the restructuring and reform of Palestinian institutions;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts with the parties concerned, and in consultation with the Security Council, towards the attainment of a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and the promotion of peace in the region and to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on these efforts and on developments on this matter.

RESOLUTION 57/111

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 154 to 5, with 6 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.44 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Costa Rica, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

57/111. Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 181 (II) of 29 November 1947, in particular its provisions regarding the City of Jerusalem,

Recalling also its resolution 36/120 E of 10 December 1981 and all subsequent resolutions, including resolution 56/31 of 3 December 2001, in which it, inter alia, determined that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, which have altered or purported to alter the character and status of the Holy City of Jerusalem, in particular the so-called "Basic Law" on Jerusalem and the proclamation of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel, were null and void and must be rescinded forthwith,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions relevant to Jerusalem, including resolution 478 (1980) of 20 August 1980, in which the Council, inter alia, decided not to recognize the "Basic Law" and called upon those States which had established diplomatic missions in Jerusalem to withdraw such missions from the Holy City,

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[141] A/56/1026-S/2002/932, annex II, resolution 14/221.

Expressing its grave concern at any action taken by any body, governmental or non-governmental, in violation of the above-mentioned resolutions,

Reaffirming that the international community, through the United Nations, has a legitimate interest in the question of the City of Jerusalem and the protection of the unique spiritual and religious dimension of the city, as foreseen in relevant United Nations resolutions on this matter,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[142]

1. *Reiterates its determination* that any actions taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the Holy City of Jerusalem are illegal and therefore null and void and have no validity whatsoever;

2. *Deplores* the transfer by some States of their diplomatic missions to Jerusalem in violation of Security Council resolution 478 (1980), and calls once more upon those States to abide by the provisions of the relevant United Nations resolutions, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Stresses* that a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the question of the City of Jerusalem should take into account the legitimate concerns of both the Palestinian and Israeli sides and should include internationally guaranteed provisions to ensure the freedom of religion and of conscience of its inhabitants, as well as permanent, free and unhindered access to the holy places by the people of all religions and nationalities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/112

Adopted at the 66th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 109 to 4, with 57 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.45 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Palestine

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

57/112. The Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[143]

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the fundamental principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming once more the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[144] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Deeply concerned that Israel has not withdrawn from the Syrian Golan, which has been under occupation since 1967, contrary to the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions,

Stressing the illegality of the Israeli settlement construction and activities in the occupied Syrian Golan since 1967,

Noting with satisfaction the convening in Madrid on 30 October 1991 of the Peace Conference on the Middle East, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of

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[142] A/57/470.

[143] Ibid.

[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

22 November 1967, 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the formula of land for peace,

Expressing grave concern at the halt in the peace process on the Syrian track, and expressing the hope that peace talks will soon resume from the point they had reached,

1. *Declares* that Israel has failed so far to comply with Security Council resolution 497 (1981);

2. *Also declares* that the Israeli decision of 14 December 1981 to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan is null and void and has no validity whatsoever, as confirmed by the Security Council in its resolution 497 (1981), and calls upon Israel to rescind it;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* that all relevant provisions of the Regulations annexed to the Hague Convention of 1907,[145] and the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[144] continue to apply to the Syrian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, and calls upon the parties thereto to respect and ensure respect for their obligations under those instruments in all circumstances;

4. *Determines once more* that the continued occupation of the Syrian Golan and its de facto annexation constitute a stumbling block in the way of achieving a just, comprehensive and lasting peace in the region;

5. *Calls upon* Israel to resume the talks on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks and to respect the commitments and undertakings reached during the previous talks;

6. *Demands once more* that Israel withdraw from all the occupied Syrian Golan to the line of 4 June 1967 in implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions;

7. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned, the co-sponsors of the peace process and the entire international community to exert all the necessary efforts to ensure the resumption of the peace process and its success by implementing Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973);

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTIONS 57/113 A and B

Adopted at the 68th plenary meeting, on 6 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.56 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

57/113. Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan and the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

A

THE SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/220 A of 21 December 2001 and all its previous relevant resolutions,

Recalling also all relevant Security Council resolutions and statements by the President of the Council on the situation in Afghanistan, in particular resolutions 1267 (1999) of 15 October 1999, 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001, 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001, 1386 (2001) of 20 December 2001, 1390 (2002) of 16 January 2002, 1401 (2002) of 28 March 2002 and 1419 (2002) of 26 June 2002,

Welcoming the recent initiative of the President of the General Assembly to hold a panel discussion on Afghanistan,[146]

Reaffirming its continued strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity and national unity of Afghanistan, and respecting its multicultural, multi-ethnic and historical heritage,

Reaffirming its condemnation of the use of Afghan territory for terrorist activities and the exporting of international terrorism from Afghanistan, and welcoming the ongoing successful efforts of the Afghan people and the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition to combat terrorism on their territory,

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[145] See Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, *The Hague Conventions and Declarations of 1899 and 1907* (New York, Oxford University Press, 1915).

[146] See resolution 57/8.

Convinced that the main responsibility for finding a political solution lies with the Afghan people themselves, and reaffirming therefore its continued support for the implementation of the provisions of the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,[147] including the holding of free and fair elections for a representative government in 2004,

Convinced also that political consolidation aimed at the establishment of a broad-based, multi-ethnic, fully representative and gender-sensitive government, which respects the human rights of all Afghans and the international obligations of Afghanistan and is committed to peace with all countries, can lead to durable peace and reconciliation,

Welcoming the successful convening of the Emergency Loya Jirga, held from 11 to 19 June 2002, the election of President Hamid Karzai as head of State, by secret ballot, and the establishment of the Transitional Authority, and expressing its full support for President Karzai and the Transitional Authority,

Welcoming also the establishment of the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission and the Judicial Commission, and recognizing that a functioning justice system and the accountability of perpetrators of grave human rights violations are key factors in ensuring reconciliation and stability and that the ongoing difficult humanitarian situation and the ongoing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Afghanistan remain a grave concern,

Taking note of the positive developments in Afghanistan in recent months, in particular the return of a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons, the progress in implementing education and health programmes, the establishment of the commissions mandated under the Bonn Agreement and the introduction of the new currency,

Expressing its appreciation and strong support for the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General, his Special Representative for Afghanistan and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan to promote peace and stability in Afghanistan,

Reiterating that the United Nations must continue to play its central and impartial role in the international efforts to assist the Afghan people in consolidating peace in Afghanistan and rebuilding their country and its institutions, as well as in efforts to provide humanitarian assistance, provide for rehabilitation and reconstruction and facilitate the orderly return of refugees,

Recognizing the need for continued strong international commitment to humanitarian assistance and for programmes, under the ownership of the Transitional Authority, of rehabilitation and reconstruction, and noting that visible progress in this regard can further enhance the authority of the central government and greatly contribute to the peace process,

Commending the international efforts to help the Transitional Authority to provide a secure environment in Afghanistan, and stressing the need for a coordinated approach across all parts of the security sector and the importance of a national army and police force that are ethnically balanced, professional and accountable to legitimate civilian authorities,

Welcoming, in this regard, the important role played by the International Security Assistance Force and its respective lead nations in improving security conditions in and around Kabul,

Noting that, despite improvements in the security sector, the lack of security remains the most serious challenge facing Afghanistan and Afghans today, expressing its deep concern at a number of recent security incidents in Afghanistan, in particular the assassination attempt against President Karzai, noting the necessity of enhancing the capacity of the Transitional Authority to exercise its authority nationwide, and commending the steps already taken in that regard,

Deeply disturbed by the increase in the cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs in Afghanistan, which has dangerous repercussions in the region and far beyond, and welcoming, in this context, the commitment of the Transitional Authority to rid Afghanistan of this pernicious production and trade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[148]

2. *Stresses* that the fragile situation in Afghanistan poses a continuing risk to peace and stability in the region, and expresses its determination to assist the efforts of the Transitional Authority to prevent the use of Afghan territory for international terrorism;

3. *Reiterates its strong support* for the Transitional Authority in the full implementation of the Bonn Agreement,[147] and endorses its priorities, as presented in the National Development Framework and in its budget, which are the restoration of the economic infrastructure; the strengthening of the central government; the building of a national army and police force under civilian control; demobilization/reintegration, as well as demining activities; the rebuilding of the justice system; respect for human rights; and combating illicit drug production and trafficking;

4. *Calls upon* all Afghan groups to renounce the use of violence, respect human rights, adhere to their obligations under international humanitarian law, respect the authority of the Transitional Authority and implement fully the provisions of the

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[147] Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (see S/2001/1154).

[148] A/57/487-S/2002/1173.

Bonn Agreement, culminating in a constitutional loya jirga and national elections in 2004;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the full and equal participation of women in political, economic, cultural and social life throughout the country, and calls upon the Transitional Authority to protect and promote the equal rights of men and women;

6. *Commends and strongly supports* the important role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in support of efforts of the Transitional Authority to fully implement the Bonn Agreement, and endorses the concept of the Assistance Mission as a fully integrated Mission under the authority of the Special Representative and with a light international footprint;

7. *Supports* the efforts of groups of interested States and international organizations, underlines the importance of ensuring complementarity among these efforts, and calls upon all parties to coordinate closely with the Special Representative;

8. *Calls upon* donor countries that pledged financial aid at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002, to fulfil their assumed commitments promptly, and also calls upon all Member States to provide humanitarian assistance and to support the Transitional Authority, including through the provision of direct budgetary support as well as through long-term assistance for the economic and social reconstruction and rehabilitation of Afghanistan, especially in the provinces, based on the Immediate and Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People 2002;

9. *Calls* for continued international assistance to the vast number of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons to facilitate their safe and orderly return and sustainable reintegration into society so as to contribute to the stability of the entire country;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Transitional Authority to respect fully the international obligations of Afghanistan with regard to narcotic drugs, and calls upon it to strengthen further its efforts to eradicate the annual poppy crop;

11. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Transitional Authority in the development and implementation of comprehensive, coordinated programmes aimed at eliminating illicit poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, including through crop substitution programmes and capacity-building for drug control;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-seventh session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security".

B

EMERGENCY INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR PEACE, NORMALCY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF WAR-STRICKEN AFGHANISTAN

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/220 B of 21 December 2001 and all other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the agreement reached among various Afghan groups in Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001[147] and the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held in Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002,

Welcoming the recent initiative of the President of the General Assembly to hold a panel discussion on Afghanistan,[146]

Expressing its grave concern about the continuing effects of decades of conflict in Afghanistan, which has caused massive loss of life, extensive human suffering, destruction of property, serious damage to the economic and social infrastructure, refugee flows and other forcible displacements of large numbers of people,

Mindful that Afghanistan is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and that some parts of its territory continue to be affected by serious drought,

Noting the accession of Afghanistan to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[149]

Remaining deeply concerned about the problem of millions of anti-personnel landmines and unexploded ordnance, which constitutes a great danger for the civilian population and a major obstacle for the return of refugees and displaced populations and for the resumption of agricultural activities, the provision of humanitarian assistance and rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts,

Welcoming the positive steps taken so far towards an improvement in the situation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of many Afghans, in particular women and children, however noting with grave concern that there remain discriminatory practices that hinder the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Expressing its deep concern about reports of abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law in parts of the country, and in this regard reminding the Transitional Authority and all Afghan groups of their commitment to respect human rights in the country, as contained in the Bonn Agreement,

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[149] See CD/1478.

Reiterating the importance of the safety and security of the humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel in Afghanistan,

Noting with concern that limited access to certain areas of Afghanistan and inadequate conditions for the delivery of aid threaten the well-being of internally displaced persons and vulnerable sections of the civilian population,

Recognizing that a secure environment is necessary for the safe and effective delivery and distribution of humanitarian assistance and is a precondition for rehabilitation, reconstruction efforts and long-term development,

Welcoming the ongoing implementation by the United Nations of the Immediate and Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People 2002 in response to continuing humanitarian needs,

Welcoming also the presentation of the National Development Framework and budget by the Transitional Authority as an important coordination concept for rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and in this context welcoming also the introduction of the new Afghan currency,

Noting that economic recovery and reconstruction in Afghanistan and the security and improvement of the lives of the Afghan people are interrelated,

Reiterating the importance of a seamless connection between humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and the reconstruction of Afghanistan, and welcoming the important contribution that the integrated approach of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan has made in this regard,

Expressing its appreciation to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for their continued efforts in coordinating, planning and implementing humanitarian and other assistance in cooperation with the Transitional Authority,

Welcoming the return of a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons, while noting with concern that internal displacement remains a widespread phenomenon and that the conditions in certain parts of Afghanistan are not yet conducive to the safe and sustainable return of a significant number of internally displaced persons and refugees to their places of origin, particularly in the northern part of the country,

Acknowledging that those refugees constitute a continuing socio-economic burden for the neighbouring host countries, expressing its gratitude to those countries that continue to host Afghan refugee populations, and at the same time once again calling upon all groups to continue to fulfil their obligations for the protection of refugees and internally displaced persons and to allow international access for their protection and care,

Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations system and to all States and international and non-governmental organizations whose international and local staff have responded positively and continue to respond to the humanitarian needs of Afghanistan, as well as to the Secretary-General for his efforts in mobilizing and coordinating the delivery of appropriate humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[150]

2. *Stresses* that the responsibility for the solution of the humanitarian crisis lies above all with the Afghan people themselves, and urges them to continue their efforts to achieve national reconciliation;

3. *Urges* all Afghan groups to actively support the Transitional Authority in meeting the responsibilities under the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[149] to cooperate fully with the mine action programme coordinated by the United Nations and to effect the destruction of all existing stocks of landmines;

4. *Welcomes* the determination of the Transitional Authority to take the lead in reconstruction efforts, and welcomes the contribution of donors to meet the requirements of the Immediate and Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People 2002, urges them to fulfil promptly the funding commitments made at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, and invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged in Tokyo;

5. *Stresses* the coordinating role of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan for the United Nations system in ensuring a seamless connection between humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and the reconstruction of Afghanistan, including the cooperation of the United Nations system with other actors in the international community, in particular with the international financial institutions;

6. *Commends* the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Afghanistan Support Group for the work accomplished, as well as the Implementation Group for coordinating the rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and encourages such coordination efforts to continue so as to facilitate the effective and efficient delivery of assistance;

7. *Also commends* the activities of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in supporting the national development budget process, which will play an important role in increasing the integration of the programmes of United Nations agencies, their partners and the Transitional Authority;

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[150] A/57/410.

8. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund and the Law and Order Trust Fund as mechanisms for mobilizing international support to Afghanistan;

9. *Encourages* the international community to actively participate and financially contribute to these rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts, and also encourages the international community to channel assistance through the national development budget of the Afghan Transitional Authority and to focus attention on building the capacity of Afghans;

10. *Strongly condemns* all acts of violence and intimidation directed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel, and regrets the loss of life and physical harm suffered among the staff;

11. *Urges* the Transitional Authority and local authorities to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all United Nations and humanitarian personnel, as well as their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations, and to protect the property of the United Nations and of humanitarian organizations, including non-governmental organizations;

12. *Strongly condemns* continuing discrimination against women and girls as well as ethnic and religious groups, including minorities, wherever such discrimination takes place;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of actively involving all elements of Afghan society, in particular women, in the development and implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

14. *Reminds* all Afghan groups of their commitment to the Bonn Agreement,[147] and calls upon them to respect fully the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, without discrimination of any kind, including on the basis of gender, ethnicity or religion, and in accordance with their obligations under international law, and to protect and promote the equal rights of women and men;

15. *Calls upon* the international community to assist the Transitional Authority in demobilizing and reintegrating war-affected children and in providing Afghan children with educational and health facilities in all parts of the country, and urges all Afghan groups to refrain from the recruitment or use of children contrary to international standards;

16. *Calls upon* the Transitional Authority to facilitate the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations of international human rights and international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international law;

17. *Appeals* to the Transitional Authority and the international community to mainstream gender issues into all humanitarian assistance and future rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes, and to actively attempt to promote the full and equal participation and benefit to both women and men of those programmes;

18. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that continue to host Afghan refugees, and reminds them of their obligations under international refugee law with respect to the protection of refugees and the right to seek asylum;

19. *Calls upon* the international community to consider providing further assistance in support of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons, including for their voluntary and safe return and reintegration;

20. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Governments of neighbouring States hosting United Nations agencies for their cooperation, and calls upon them to continue to facilitate the work of United Nations humanitarian operations on their territory in order to ensure the continued efficient delivery of emergency aid into Afghanistan;

21. *Urgently appeals* to all States, the United Nations system and international and non-governmental organizations to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the Transitional Authority and Afghan civil society, all possible humanitarian, financial, technical and material assistance for the Afghan population;

22. *Calls upon* the international community to respond generously and without delay to the Immediate and Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People 2002 as well as to long-term interventions towards rehabilitation and reconstruction;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly every four months during its fifty-seventh session on the progress of the United Nations and the efforts of his Special Representative to promote peace in Afghanistan, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/114

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of the report of the Credentials Committee (A/57/634)

57/114. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Credentials Committee[151] and the recommendation contained therein,

Approves the report of the Credentials Committee.

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[151] A/57/634, para. 11.

RESOLUTION 57/139

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 154 to 4, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (A/57/23)

* *In favour:* Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining: France, Netherlands.

57/139. Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,[152]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular resolution 56/73 of 10 December 2001,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to achieving the goals of the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat;

2. *Considers it important* to continue its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options of self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to take into account the suggestions of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue their efforts to take measures through all the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(*a*) To continue to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(*c*) To maintain a working relationship with the appropriate regional and intergovernmental organizations, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, by holding periodic consultations and exchanging information;

(*d*) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(*e*) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to continue to extend their cooperation in the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

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[152] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. III. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23.*

5. *Requests* the Special Committee to follow the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/140

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 139 to 3, with 19 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.52 and Add.1, sponsored by: Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Fiji, Grenada, Saint Lucia, South Africa

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Netherlands, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey

57/140. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[153]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, most recently resolution 56/74 of 10 December 2001, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind the declaration of the period 2001–2010 as the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the Organization and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2001,

Reconfirming the need to take measures to eliminate colonialism before 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as of racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with concern that the non-participation of certain administering Powers has adversely affected the implementation of the mandate and work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of some administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting that the other administering Powers have now agreed to work informally with the Special Committee,

Taking note of the consultations and agreements between the parties concerned in some Non-Self-Governing Territories and the action taken by the Secretary-General in relation to certain Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the pressing need of newly independent and emerging States for assistance from the United Nations and its system of organizations in the economic, social and other fields,

Aware also of the pressing need of many of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, many of which are small island Territories, for economic, social and other assistance from the United Nations and the organizations of its system,

Taking special note of the fact that the Special Committee held a Pacific regional seminar to review the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, particularly their political evolution towards self-determination for the year 2002 and beyond, in Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002,[154]

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[153] A/57/23 (Part I), A/57/23 (Part II) and Add.1 and A/57/23 (Part III). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[154] See A/57/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514 (XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 55/146, in which it declares the period 2001–2010 the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all necessary steps to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;[155]

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 2002, including the programme of work envisaged for 2003;[156]

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee to finalize before the end of 2003 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing consultations between the Special Committee and New Zealand, as administering Power for Tokelau, with the participation of representatives of the people of Tokelau, with a view to advancing the programme of work on the question of Tokelau, and also welcomes the report of the United Nations Mission that visited Tokelau in August 2002 at the invitation of New Zealand and Tokelau;[157]

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism and the Second International Decade in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(*a*) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

(*b*) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(*c*) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*d*) To finalize before the end of 2003 a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*e*) To continue to dispatch visiting missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(*f*) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(*g*) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(*h*) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;[158]

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

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[155] Resolution 217 A (III).

[156] See A/57/23 (Part I), chap. I, sect. J. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[157] See A/57/23 (Part II)/Add.1. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[158] See resolution 2911 (XXVII).

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the economic activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources, including land, and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Reiterates* that military activities and arrangements by administering Powers in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration should not run counter to the rights and interests of the peoples of the Territories concerned, especially their right to self-determination, including independence, calls upon the administering Powers concerned to terminate such activities and to eliminate the remaining military bases in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and also calls upon the administering Powers to promote alternative sources of livelihood for the peoples of the Territories concerned;

13. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests that the administering Powers take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

14. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

15. *Calls upon* the administering Powers that have not participated formally in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its session in 2003;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as of the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.

RESOLUTION 57/141

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 132 to 1, with 2 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.48/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominica, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Honduras, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

* *In favour:* Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Turkey
Abstaining: Colombia, Venezuela

57/141. Oceans and the law of the sea

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/28 of 6 December 1994, 52/26 of 26 November 1997, 54/33 of 24 November 1999, 55/7 of 30 October 2000, 56/12 of 28 November 2001 and other relevant resolutions adopted subsequent to the entry into force of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention")[159] on 16 November 1994,

Emphasizing the universal and unified character of the Convention and its fundamental importance for the maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security, as well as for the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

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[159] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

Reaffirming that the Convention sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out and is of strategic importance as the basis for national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector, and that its integrity needs to be maintained, as recognized also by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[160]

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Convinced of the need, building on arrangements established in accordance with the Convention, to improve coordination at the national level and cooperation and coordination at both intergovernmental and inter-agency levels, in order to address all aspects of oceans and seas in an integrated manner,

Recognizing the important role that the competent international organizations have in relation to ocean affairs, in implementing the Convention and in promoting the sustainable development of the oceans and seas,

Welcoming the outcome of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[161]

Recalling the essential role of international cooperation and coordination in promoting the integrated management and sustainable development of the oceans and seas, and recalling also that the role of international cooperation and coordination on a bilateral basis and, where applicable, within a subregional, regional, interregional or global framework is to support and supplement the national efforts of all States, including coastal States, in promoting the implementation and observance of the Convention and the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas,

Recalling also article 200 of the Convention, in which States are encouraged to participate actively in regional and global programmes to acquire knowledge for the assessment of the nature and extent of marine pollution, and welcoming in this regard the recommendation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to establish by 2004 a regular process under the United Nations for global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments,[162]

Underlining once again the essential need for capacity-building to ensure that all States, especially developing countries, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, are able both to implement the Convention and to benefit from the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, as well as to participate fully in global and regional forums and processes dealing with oceans and law of the sea issues,

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the ability of competent international organizations to contribute, at the global, regional, subregional and bilateral levels, including through cooperation programmes with Governments, to the development of national and local capacity in marine science and the sustainable management of oceans and their resources,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[163] and emphasizing in this regard the critical role of the annual comprehensive report of the Secretary-General, which integrates information on developments relating to the implementation of the Convention and the work of the Organization, its specialized agencies and other institutions in the field of ocean affairs and the law of the sea at the global and regional levels, and as a result constitutes the basis for the annual consideration and review of developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea by the General Assembly as the global institution having the competence to undertake such a review,

Taking note also of the report on the work of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process ("the Consultative Process") established by the General Assembly in its resolution 54/33 in order to facilitate the annual review by the Assembly of developments in ocean affairs at its third meeting,[164]

Reiterating its concern at the adverse impacts on the marine environment from ships, including pollution, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances and the dumping of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, as well as physical impacts on coral,

Welcoming resolution GC(46)/RES/9 adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-sixth regular session, concerning measures to strengthen international cooperation in nuclear, radiation, transport and waste safety, including those aspects relating to maritime transport safety,[165]

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[160] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[161] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[162] Ibid., resolution 2, annex, para. 36 (*b*).

[163] A/57/57 and Add.1.

[164] See A/57/80.

Noting the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and in this context the expected increase in responsibilities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in view of the progress in the work of the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf ("the Commission") and the anticipated receipt of submissions from States, in addition to the expected growing involvement of the Division with requests for technical assistance from States and its role in inter-agency coordination and cooperation,

I. Implementation of the Convention and related agreements and instruments

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention[159] and the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 ("the Agreement");[159]

2. *Reaffirms* the unified character of the Convention;

3. *Once again calls upon* States to harmonize, as a matter of priority, their national legislation with the provisions of the Convention, to ensure the consistent application of those provisions and to ensure also that any declarations or statements that they have made or make when signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention are in conformity therewith and, otherwise, to withdraw any of their declarations or statements that are not in conformity;

4. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention to deposit with the Secretary-General charts and lists of geographical coordinates, as provided for in the Convention;

5. *Welcomes* the entry into force on 11 December 2001 of the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks,[166] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to it;

6. *Emphasizes* the essential need also to improve the implementation of international agreements in accordance with article 311 of the Convention and, where appropriate, to foster the conditions for the application of instruments of a voluntary nature, and recalls the important role of international organizations in achieving these goals;

II. World Summit on Sustainable Development

7. *Welcomes* the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), adopted on 4 September 2002,[167] which once again emphasizes the importance of addressing the sustainable development of oceans and seas and provides for the further implementation of chapter 17 of Agenda 21;[160]

8. *Also welcomes* the commitments set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation to actions at all levels, within specific periods for certain goals, to ensure the sustainable development of the oceans, including sustainable fisheries, the promotion of the conservation and management of the oceans, the enhancement of maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment from pollution, and the improvement of scientific understanding and assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems as a fundamental basis for sound decision-making;

III. Meeting of States Parties

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention in New York from 9 to 13 June 2003 and to provide the services required;

IV. Settlement of disputes

10. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued contribution of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea ("the Tribunal") to the peaceful settlement of disputes in accordance with Part XV of the Convention, underlines its important role and authority concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, encourages States parties to the Convention to consider making a written declaration choosing from the means set out in article 287 for the settlement of disputes concerning the interpretation or application of the Convention and the Agreement, and invites States parties to note the provisions of annexes V, VI, VII and VIII to the Convention concerning, respectively, conciliation, the Tribunal, arbitration and special arbitration;

11. *Equally pays tribute* to the important and long-standing role of the International Court of Justice with regard to the peaceful settlement of disputes concerning the law of the sea;

12. *Recalls* the obligation under article 296 of the Convention requiring all parties to a dispute before a court or a

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[165] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC(2002)).

[166] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[167] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

tribunal referred to in article 287 of the Convention to comply promptly with any decision rendered by such court or tribunal;

13. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to nominate conciliators and arbitrators in accordance with annexes V and VII to the Convention, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to update and circulate lists of these conciliators and arbitrators on a regular basis;

V. The Area

14. *Notes with satisfaction* the first examination by the Council of the International Seabed Authority ("the Authority") of annual reports on prospecting and exploration for polymetallic nodules in the Area submitted by contractors to the Authority;

15. *Notes* the preliminary discussion of issues relating to the regulations for prospecting and exploration for polymetallic sulphides and cobalt-rich crusts in the Area;

16. *Reiterates* the importance of the ongoing elaboration by the Authority, pursuant to article 145 of the Convention, of rules, regulations and procedures to ensure the effective protection of the marine environment, the protection and conservation of the natural resources of the Area and the prevention of damage to its flora and fauna from harmful effects that may arise from activities in the Area;

VI. Effective functioning of the Authority and the Tribunal

17. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Convention to pay their assessed contributions to the Authority and to the Tribunal in full and on time, and appeals also to all former provisional members of the Authority to pay any outstanding contributions;

18. *Calls upon* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the Tribunal[168] and to the Protocol on the Privileges and Immunities of the Authority;[169]

VII. The continental shelf and the work of the Commission

19. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress in the work of the Commission, especially that the consideration of submissions regarding the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles has begun with receipt of the first submission, made by the Russian Federation on 20 December 2001;

20. *Encourages* States parties that are in a position to do so to make every effort to make submissions to the Commission within the time period established by the Convention, taking into account the decision of the eleventh Meeting of States Parties to the Convention;[170]

21. *Encourages* States and relevant international organizations and institutions to consider developing and making available training courses to assist developing States in the preparation of such submissions, based on the outline for a five-day training course[171] prepared by the Commission in order to facilitate the preparation of submissions in accordance with its Scientific and Technical Guidelines;[172]

22. *Approves* the convening by the Secretary-General of the twelfth session of the Commission in New York from 28 April to 2 May 2003, followed by two weeks of meetings of a subcommission in the event that a submission is made to the Commission, and of the thirteenth session of the Commission from 25 to 29 August 2003;

VIII. Marine science and technology

23. *Stresses* the importance of the issues of marine science and technology and the need to focus on how best to implement the many obligations of States and competent international organizations under Parts XIII and XIV of the Convention, and calls upon States to adopt, as appropriate and in accordance with international law, such national laws, regulations, policies and procedures as are necessary to promote and facilitate marine scientific research and cooperation, especially those relating to consent for marine scientific research projects as provided for in the Convention;

24. *Calls upon* States, through national and regional institutions, to ensure that, in respect of marine scientific research conducted pursuant to Part XIII of the Convention in areas over which a coastal State has jurisdiction, the rights of the coastal State under the Convention are respected and that, at the request of the coastal State, information, reports, results, conclusions and assessments of data, samples and research results are made available, and access to data and samples are provided, to that coastal State;

25. *Urges* relevant bodies of the United Nations system to develop, with the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization acting as a focal point and, where appropriate, other competent organizations, appropriate interactions in the field of marine science with regional fisheries organizations, environmental and scientific bodies or regional centres foreseen by Part XIV of the Convention, and encourages States to strengthen existing centres and to establish, where appropriate, such regional centres;

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[168] SPLOS/25.

[169] ISBA/4/A/8, annex.

[170] SPLOS/72.

[171] CLCS/24 and Corr.1.

[172] CLCS/11 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Corr.1.

IX. Maritime safety and security

26. *Urges* all States and relevant international bodies to cooperate to prevent and combat piracy and armed robbery at sea by adopting measures, including those relating to assistance with capacity-building, prevention, reporting and investigating incidents, and bringing the alleged perpetrators to justice, in accordance with international law, and through the adoption of national legislation, as well as through training seafarers, port staff and enforcement personnel, providing enforcement vessels and equipment and guarding against fraudulent ship registration;

27. *Calls upon* States and private entities concerned to cooperate fully with the International Maritime Organization, including by submitting reports on incidents to the organization and by implementing its guidelines on preventing attacks of piracy and armed robbery;

28. *Urges* States to become parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation and its Protocol,[173] invites States to participate in the review of those instruments by the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization to strengthen the means of combating such unlawful acts, including terrorist acts, and further urges States to take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments, in particular through the adoption of legislation, where appropriate, aimed at ensuring that there is a proper framework for responses to incidents of armed robbery and terrorist acts at sea;

29. *Welcomes* initiatives at the International Maritime Organization to counter the threat to maritime security from terrorism, and encourages States to support this endeavour fully, including at the Conference of Contracting Governments to the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea of 1974, which is being held in London from 9 to 13 December 2002;

30. *Once again invites* the International Hydrographic Organization, in cooperation with other relevant international organizations and interested Member States, to provide the necessary assistance to States, in particular to developing countries, in order to enhance hydrographic capability to ensure, in particular, the safety of navigation and the protection of the marine environment;

31. *Notes* the increasing problem of unsafe transport at sea generally, and particularly in the smuggling of migrants;

32. *Urges* Member States to work together cooperatively and with the International Maritime Organization to strengthen measures to prevent the embarkation of ships involved in the smuggling of migrants;

33. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,[174] and to take appropriate measures to ensure its effective implementation;

34. *Welcomes* the initiatives by the International Maritime Organization, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Organization for Migration to address the issue of the treatment of persons rescued at sea;

X. Capacity-building

35. *Reiterates its call* in paragraph 8 of its resolution 56/12, in line as well with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, for reviews by the relevant international organizations and financial institutions and the donor community of the efforts to build capacity in order to identify the gaps that may need to be filled for ensuring consistent approaches, both nationally and internationally, in order to implement the Convention and chapter 17 of Agenda 21;

36. *Calls upon* bilateral and multilateral donor agencies to keep their programmes systematically under review to ensure the availability in all States, particularly in developing States, of the economic, legal, navigational, scientific and technical skills necessary for the full implementation of the Convention and the sustainable development of the oceans and seas nationally, regionally and globally, and in so doing to bear in mind the rights of landlocked developing States;

37. *Calls upon* States and international financial institutions, including through bilateral, regional and international cooperation programmes and technical partnerships, to continue to strengthen capacity-building activities, in particular in developing countries, in the field of marine scientific research by, inter alia, training the necessary skilled personnel, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels, and transferring environmentally sound technologies;

38. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme, working within the Global Resource Information Database (GRID) system for data and information management, to expand on a voluntary basis the capacity of existing GRID centres to store and handle research data from the outer continental margin, on a basis to be mutually agreed with the coastal State, and complementary to existing regional data centres, giving due regard to confidentiality needs and in accordance with Part XIII of the Convention, and making use of existing data management mechanisms under the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the International Hydrographic Organization, with a view to serving the needs of coastal States, and in particular developing

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[173] International Maritime Organization publication, Sales No. 462.88.12E.

[174] Resolution 55/25, annex III.

countries and small island developing States, in their compliance with article 76 of the Convention;

39. *Encourages* States to assist developing States, and especially least developed States and small island developing States, on a bilateral and, where appropriate, regional level, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission, including the assessment of the nature of the continental shelf of a coastal State made in the form of a desktop study, and the mapping of the outer limits of its continental shelf;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile in a uniform format a directory of sources of training, advice and expertise and technological services, including relevant institutions and other sources of technical information and practice, which may contribute to the preparation of such submissions, to be available to Member States and to be posted on the web site of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Secretariat, bearing in mind that an entry in the directory would not imply official endorsement by the Secretariat of any such sources;

XI. Marine environment, marine resources and sustainable development

41. *Emphasizes once again* the importance of the implementation of Part XII of the Convention in order to protect and preserve the marine environment and its living marine resources against pollution and physical degradation, and calls upon all States to cooperate and take measures, directly or through competent international organizations, for the protection and preservation of the marine environment;

42. *Calls upon* States to continue to prioritize action on marine pollution from land-based sources as part of their national sustainable development strategies and programmes, in an integrated and inclusive manner, as a means of implementing the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;[175]

43. *Also calls upon* States to advance the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities and the Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[176] to enhance maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment from pollution and other physical impacts, and to improve the scientific understanding and assessment of marine and coastal ecosystems as a fundamental basis for sound decision-making through the actions identified in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

44. *Invites* all relevant United Nations agencies to review individually their arrangements for collecting information and data relevant to the marine environment and for ensuring the quality of those data, using to the fullest possible extent what is available at the regional level, and to consider collectively how to ensure that the resulting information and data sets provide, within the constraints of existing resources, an acceptably consistent, coherent and comprehensive basis for international decision-making;

45. *Decides* to establish by 2004 a regular process under the United Nations for the global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, including socio-economic aspects, both current and foreseeable, building on existing regional assessments, and requests the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with Member States, relevant organizations and agencies and programmes of the United Nations system, namely, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Maritime Organization, the World Health Organization, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Meteorological Organization and the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, other competent intergovernmental organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to prepare proposals on modalities for a regular process for the global reporting and assessment of the state of the marine environment, drawing, inter alia, upon the work of the United Nations Environment Programme pursuant to Governing Council decision 21/13, and taking into account the recently completed review by the Joint Group of Experts on the Scientific Aspects of Marine Environmental Protection, and to submit these proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session for its consideration and decision, including on the convening of a possible intergovernmental meeting;

46. *Encourages* States to ratify or to accede to international agreements to prevent, reduce, control and eliminate pollution from ships, dumping, the carriage of hazardous and noxious substances, anti-fouling systems on ships and persistent organic pollutants, as well as agreements that provide for compensation for damage resulting from marine pollution;

47. *Welcomes* the decision of the International Maritime Organization to approve in principle the concept of a voluntary Model Audit Scheme as a means of enhancing the performance of member States in implementing appropriate conventions of the organization relating to maritime safety and the prevention of maritime pollution, and encourages the organization to continue to develop such a scheme;

48. *Notes with deep concern* the extremely serious damage of an environmental, social and economic nature brought about by oil spills as a result of recent maritime accidents which have affected several countries, and therefore calls upon all States and relevant international organizations to

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[175] A/51/116, annex II.

[176] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/15, annex, sect. I.

adopt all necessary and appropriate measures in accordance with international law to prevent catastrophes of this kind from occurring in the future;

49. *Invites* States to cooperate at the regional level to develop regionally shared goals and timetables in pursuance of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities, including through regional seas conventions;

50. *Calls upon* States to take measures for the protection and preservation of coral reefs and to support international efforts in this regard, in particular the measures outlined in decision VI/3 adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity at its sixth meeting, held in The Hague from 7 to 19 April 2002;[177]

51. *Also calls upon* States to develop national, regional and international programmes for halting the loss of marine biodiversity, in particular fragile ecosystems;

52. *Further calls upon* States to accelerate the development of measures to address the problem of invasive alien species in ballast water, and urges the International Maritime Organization to finalize the International Convention on the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments;

53. *Calls upon* States to promote the conservation and management of the oceans in accordance with chapter 17 of Agenda 21 and other relevant international instruments, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools, including the ecosystem approach, the elimination of destructive fishing practices, the establishment of marine protected areas consistent with international law and based on scientific information, including representative networks by 2012 and time/area closures for the protection of nursery grounds and periods, proper coastal and land use and watershed planning, and the integration of marine and coastal areas management into key sectors;

54. *Welcomes* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, which has special knowledge and expertise in various aspects of fisheries, in implementing the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries,[178] for the conservation and management of fisheries resources;

55. *Urges* States to take all necessary steps to implement the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing, adopted by the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[179] including through relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

56. *Encourages* relevant international organizations, including the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the International Hydrographic Organization, the International Maritime Organization, the International Seabed Authority, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Meteorological Organization, the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Secretariat (Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea), with the assistance of regional and subregional fisheries organizations, to consider urgently ways to integrate and improve, on a scientific basis, the management of risks to marine biodiversity of seamounts and certain other underwater features within the framework of the Convention;

XII. Regional cooperation

57. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional organizations and arrangements for cooperation and coordination in integrated oceans management, and, where there are separate regional structures for different aspects of oceans management, such as environmental protection, fisheries management, navigation, scientific research and maritime delimitation, calls for those different structures, where appropriate, to work together for optimal cooperation and coordination;

58. *Takes note* of the Fund for Peace: Peaceful Settlement of Territorial Disputes established by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States in 2000 as a primary mechanism, given its broader regional scope, for the prevention and resolution of pending territorial, land border and maritime boundary disputes, and also takes note of the Caribbean-focused Trust Fund established by the Conference on Maritime Delimitation in the Caribbean, held in Mexico City from 6 to 8 May 2002, which is intended to facilitate, mainly as a conduit for technical assistance, the voluntary undertaking of maritime delimitation negotiations between Caribbean States, and calls upon States and others in a position to do so to contribute to these Funds;

59. *Also takes note* of the Pacific Islands Regional Ocean Policy approved at the thirty-third meeting of the Pacific Island Forum, held in Suva from 15 to 17 August 2002;[180]

XIII. Open-ended informal consultative process on oceans and the law of the sea

60. *Reaffirms* its decision to undertake an annual review and evaluation of the implementation of the Convention and

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[177] See UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, annex I.

[178] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

[179] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries*, no. 9.

[180] See A/57/331, annex 2.

other developments relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, welcomes the work of the Consultative Process over the past three years, notes the contribution of the Consultative Process to strengthening the annual debate of the General Assembly on oceans and the law of the sea, and decides to continue with the Consultative Process for the next three years, in accordance with resolution 54/33, with a further review of its effectiveness and utility by the Assembly at its sixtieth session;

61. *Requests* the Secretary-General to convene the meeting of the Consultative Process in New York from 2 to 6 June 2003, and to provide it with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work and to arrange for support to be provided by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, in cooperation with other relevant parts of the Secretariat, including the Division for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, as appropriate;

62. *Recommends* that, in its deliberations on the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea at its meeting, the Consultative Process should organize its discussions around the following areas:

(*a*) Protecting vulnerable marine ecosystems;

(*b*) The safety of navigation; for example, capacity-building for the production of nautical charts;

as well as issues discussed at previous meetings;

XIV. Inter-agency coordination and cooperation

63. *Invites* the Secretary-General to establish an effective, transparent and regular inter-agency coordination mechanism on oceans and coastal issues within the United Nations system;

64. *Recommends* that this new mechanism should have a clear mandate and be established on the basis of principles of continuity, regularity and accountability, taking into account paragraph 49 of Part A of the report on the work of the Consultative Process at its third meeting;[164]

65. *Invites* Member States and, where appropriate, competent international organizations to identify focal points for the exchange of practical and administrative information concerning law of the sea and ocean issues with the Secretariat;

66. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of heads of intergovernmental organizations, the specialized agencies and funds and programmes of the United Nations engaged in activities relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, drawing their attention to paragraphs of particular relevance to them, and underlines the importance of their constructive and timely input for the report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea and of their participation in relevant meetings and processes;

67. *Invites* the competent international organizations, as well as funding institutions, to take specific account of the present resolution in their programmes and activities and to contribute to the preparation of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea;

XV. Activities of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

68. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea,[163] prepared by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, as well as for the other activities of the Division, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention and the mandate set forth in resolutions 49/28, 52/26, 54/33 and 56/12;

69. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to carry out the responsibilities entrusted to him in the Convention and related resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/28 and 52/26, and to ensure that appropriate resources are made available to the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea for the performance of such responsibilities under the approved budget for the Organization;

70. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to support the training activities under the TRAIN-SEA-COAST Programme of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea;

XVI. Trust funds and fellowships

71. *Recognizes* the importance of the trust funds established by the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 55/7 for the purpose of assisting States in the settlement of disputes through the Tribunal,[181] and of assisting developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, in the preparation of submissions to the Commission in compliance with article 76 of the Convention,[182] in defraying the cost of participation of Commission members in the meetings of the Commission,[183] and in attending the meetings of the Consultative Process,[184] as well as other trust funds[185] established for the purpose of assisting States in the implementation of the Convention, and invites States, intergovernmental organizations and agencies, national institutions, non-governmental organizations and international financial institutions, as well as natural and juridical persons, to make voluntary financial or other contributions to these trust funds;

72. *Invites* Member States and others in a position to do so to contribute to the further development of the Hamilton

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[181] See resolution 55/7, para. 9.

[182] Ibid., para. 18.

[183] Ibid., para. 20.

[184] Ibid., para. 45.

[185] See ISBA/8/A/11, para. 12.

Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship Programme on the Law of the Sea established by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/116 of 10 December 1980;

XVII. Fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly

73. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including other developments and issues relating to ocean affairs and the law of the sea, in connection with his annual comprehensive report on oceans and the law of the sea, and to provide the report in accordance with the modalities set out in resolutions 49/28, 52/26 and 54/33, and also requests the Secretary-General to make the report available, in its current comprehensive format, at least six weeks in advance of the meeting of the Consultative Process;

74. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

RESOLUTION 57/142

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.49 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Guinea, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Vanuatu

57/142. Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 46/215 of 20 December 1991, 49/116 and 49/118 of 19 December 1994, 50/25 of 5 December 1995, 51/36 of 9 December 1996, 52/29 of 26 November 1997, 53/33 of 24 November 1998 and 55/8 of 30 October 2000, as well as other resolutions on large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments, and bearing in mind resolution 57/143 of 12 December 2002,

Noting that the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[186] sets out principles and global standards of behaviour for responsible practices to conserve, manage and develop fisheries, including guidelines for fishing on the high seas and in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, and on fishing gear selectivity and practices, with the aim of reducing by-catch and discards,

Welcoming the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[187] concerning the importance of achieving sustainable fisheries to the maintenance of oceans, seas, islands and coastal areas as an integrated and essential component of the Earth's ecosystem, for global food security and for sustaining economic prosperity and the well-being of many national economies, particularly in developing countries,

Noting the importance of the wide application of the precautionary approach to the conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, in accordance with the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Agreement"),[188] and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries,

Noting also the importance of implementing the principles elaborated in article 5 of the Agreement, including ecosystem considerations, in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Noting further the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem[189] and decisions V/6[190] and VI/12[191] of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recognizing the importance of integrated, multidisciplinary and multisectoral coastal and ocean management at the national, subregional and regional levels,

Recognizing also that coordination and cooperation at the global, regional, subregional as well as national levels in the areas, inter alia, of data collection, information-sharing, capacity-building and training are crucial for the conservation, management and sustainable development of marine living resources,

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[186] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

[187] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[188] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[189] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/3, annex.

[190] See UNEP/CBD/COP/5/23, annex III.

[191] See UNEP/CBD/COP/6/20, annex I.

Recognizing further the duty provided as a principle in the Agreement to Promote Compliance with International Conservation and Management Measures by Fishing Vessels on the High Seas ("the Compliance Agreement"),[192] the Agreement and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries for flag States to exercise effective control over fishing vessels flying their flag and vessels flying their flag which provide support to such vessels, and to ensure that the activities of such vessels do not undermine the effectiveness of conservation and management measures taken in accordance with international law and adopted at the national, subregional, regional or global levels,

Emphasizing the call made in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[193] for States to ratify or accede to and then effectively implement the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, and noting with concern that the latter agreement has not yet entered into force,

Noting that the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in February 1999 adopted international plans of action for the management of fishing capacity, for reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries and for the conservation and management of sharks, and noting with concern that only a small number of countries have begun implementation of the international plans of action,

Concerned that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing threatens seriously to deplete populations of certain fish species and significantly damage marine ecosystems and that illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing has a detrimental impact on sustainable fisheries, including the food security and the economies of many States, particularly developing States, and in that regard urging States and entities referred to in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention")[194] and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*) of the Agreement to collaborate in efforts to address these types of fishing activities,

Welcoming the adoption by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2001 of the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing,[195] which focuses on the primary responsibility of the flag State and the use of all available jurisdiction in accordance with international law, including port State measures, coastal State measures, market-related measures and measures to ensure that nationals do not support or engage in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing,

Noting that the objective of the International Plan of Action is to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing by providing all States with comprehensive, effective and transparent measures by which to act, including through appropriate regional fisheries management organizations in accordance with international law,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[196] and emphasizing the useful role that the report plays in bringing together information relating to the sustainable development of the world's marine living resources provided by States, relevant international organizations, regional and subregional fisheries organizations and non-governmental organizations,

Noting with satisfaction that the incidence of reported large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing activities in most regions of the world's oceans and seas has continued to be low,

Concerned that the practice of large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing remains a threat to marine living resources,

Expressing its continuing concern that efforts should be made to ensure that the implementation of resolution 46/215 in some parts of the world does not result in the transfer to other parts of the world of drift nets that contravene the resolution,

Expressing concern at the significant level of by-catch, including of juvenile fish, and discards in several of the world's fisheries, recognizing that the development and use of selective, environmentally safe and cost-effective fishing gear and techniques will be important for reducing or eliminating by-catch and discards, and calling attention to the impact this activity can have on efforts to conserve and manage fish stocks, including restoring some stocks to sustainable levels,

Expressing concern also at the reports of continued loss of seabirds, particularly albatrosses, as a result of incidental mortality from longline fishing operations, and the loss of other marine species, including sharks and fin-fish species, as a result of incidental mortality, noting with satisfaction the successful conclusion of negotiations on the Agreement for the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels under the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals, and encouraging States to give due consideration to participation in this Agreement,

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[192] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. II.

[193] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[194] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[195] See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries*, no. 9.

[196] A/57/459.

Noting with satisfaction the recent entry into force of the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles and Their Habitats, which contains provisions to minimize the incidental catch of sea turtles in fishing operations,

Noting with satisfaction also the recent adoption of regional sea turtle conservation instruments in the West African and Indian Ocean-South East Asia regions,

Recognizing the continuing need for the International Maritime Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular its Regional Seas programme, and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to address the issue of marine debris derived from land-based and ship-generated sources of pollution, including derelict fishing gear, which can cause mortality and habitat destruction of marine living resources,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to the long-term conservation, management and sustainable use of the marine living resources of the world's oceans and seas and the obligations of States to cooperate to this end, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the relevant provisions of the Convention,[184] in particular the provisions on cooperation set out in part V and part VII, section 2, of the Convention regarding straddling stocks, highly migratory species, marine mammals, anadromous stocks and marine living resources of the high seas, and where applicable, the Agreement;[185]

2. *Also reaffirms* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to restore depleted fish stocks on an urgent basis and where possible not later than 2015;[187]

3. *Urges* all States to apply the precautionary approach widely to the conservation, management and exploitation of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, and calls upon States parties to the Agreement to implement fully the provisions of article 6 of the Agreement as a matter of priority;

4. *Encourages* States to apply by 2010 the ecosystem approach, notes the Reykjavik Declaration on Responsible Fisheries in the Marine Ecosystem[189] and decisions V/6[190] and VI/12[191] of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, supports continuing work under way in the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to develop guidelines for the implementation of ecosystem considerations in fisheries management, and notes the importance of relevant provisions of the Agreement and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries[186] to this approach;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance it attaches to compliance with its resolutions 46/215, 49/116, 49/118, 50/25, 52/29, 53/33 and 55/8, and urges States and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement to enforce fully the measures recommended in those resolutions;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of efforts by States directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant regional and subregional organizations, and by other international organizations, including through financial and/or technical assistance, to increase the capacity of developing States to achieve the goals and implement the actions called for in the present resolution;

7. *Appeals* to States and regional fisheries organizations, including regional fisheries management bodies and regional fisheries arrangements, to promote the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries within their areas of competence;

8. *Encourages* coastal States to develop ocean policies and mechanisms on integrated management, including at the subregional and regional levels, and also including assistance to developing States in accomplishing these objectives;

9. *Calls upon* States and other entities referred to in article 10, paragraph 1, of the Compliance Agreement[192] that have not deposited instruments of acceptance of the Compliance Agreement to do so as a matter of priority;

10. *Calls upon* States not to permit vessels flying their flag to engage in fishing on the high seas or in areas under the national jurisdiction of other States, unless duly authorized by the authorities of the States concerned and in accordance with the conditions set out in the authorization, without having effective control over their activities, and to take specific measures, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention, the Agreement and the Compliance Agreement, to control fishing operations by vessels flying their flag;

11. *Also calls upon* States, in accordance with Agenda 21, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[193] to take effective action, consistent with international law, to deter reflagging of vessels by their nationals as a means of avoiding compliance with applicable conservation and management measures for fishing vessels on the high seas;

12. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations through its Interregional Programme of Assistance to Developing Countries for the Implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, including the Global Partnerships for Responsible Fisheries, as a special programme funded through donor trust fund contributions aimed at, inter alia, promoting the implementation of the Code of Conduct and its associated international plans of action;

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[193] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

13. *Encourages* States to implement directly or, as appropriate, through the relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements, the international plans of action of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for reducing the incidental catch of seabirds in longline fisheries, for the conservation and management of sharks and for the management of fishing capacity, since, according to the timetables contained within the international plans of action, progress on implementation, in particular through the development of national plans of action, should be either completed or at an advanced stage;

14. *Urges* States to develop and implement national and, where appropriate, regional plans of action, to put into effect by 2004 the International Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations[195] and to establish effective monitoring, reporting and enforcement and control of fishing vessels, including by flag States, to further the International Plan of Action;

15. *Also urges* States, as a matter of priority, to coordinate their activities and cooperate directly and, as appropriate, through relevant regional fisheries management organizations, in the implementation of the International Plan of Action, to promote information-sharing, to encourage the full participation of all stakeholders, and in all efforts to coordinate all the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations with other international organizations, including the International Maritime Organization;

16. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to continue its cooperative arrangements with United Nations agencies on the implementation of the International Plan of Action and to report to the Secretary-General, for inclusion in his annual report on oceans and the law of the sea, on priorities for cooperation and coordination in this work;

17. *Affirms* the need to strengthen, where necessary, the international legal framework for intergovernmental cooperation in the management of fish stocks and in combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, in a manner consistent with international law;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the continuing activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations aimed at providing assistance to developing countries in upgrading their capabilities in monitoring, control and surveillance, including through its Global Partnerships for Responsible Fisheries project, "Management for Responsible Fisheries, Phase I", which provides assistance to developing countries in upgrading their capabilities in monitoring, control and surveillance, and improving the provision of scientific advice for fisheries management;

19. *Also notes with satisfaction* the establishment of the International Monitoring, Control, and Surveillance Network for Fisheries-Related Activities, a voluntary network of monitoring, control and surveillance professionals designed to facilitate exchange of information and to support countries in satisfying their obligations pursuant to international agreements, in particular the Compliance Agreement, and encourages States to consider becoming members of the Network;

20. *Urges* States to eliminate subsidies that contribute to illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and to over-capacity, while completing the efforts undertaken at the World Trade Organization to clarify and improve its disciplines on fisheries subsidies, taking into account the importance of this sector to developing countries;

21. *Urges* States, relevant international organizations and regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements that have not done so to take action to reduce or eliminate by-catch, fish discards and post-harvest losses, including juvenile fish, consistent with international law and relevant international instruments, including the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, and in particular to consider measures including, as appropriate, technical measures related to fish size, mesh size or gear, discards, closed seasons and areas and zones reserved for selected fisheries, particularly artisanal fisheries, the establishment of mechanisms for communicating information on areas of high concentration of juvenile fish, taking into account the importance of ensuring confidentiality of such information, and support for studies and research that will minimize by-catch of juvenile fish;

22. *Notes with satisfaction* the activities of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, in cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies, in particular the United Nations Environment Programme and the Global Environment Facility, aimed at promoting the reduction of by-catch and discards in fisheries activities;

23. *Calls upon* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, in particular its Regional Seas programme, the International Maritime Organization, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements and other appropriate intergovernmental organizations to take up, as a matter of priority, the issue of marine debris as it relates to fisheries and, where appropriate, to promote better coordination and help States to implement fully relevant international agreements, including annex V to the Guidelines of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto;

24. *Invites* States entitled to become parties to the Inter-American Convention for the Protection and Conservation of Sea Turtles and their Habitats to consider doing so, and to participate in its work;

25. *Invites* States entitled to become parties to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning Conservation

Measures for Marine Turtles of the Atlantic Coast of Africa and the Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation and Management of Marine Turtles and Their Habitats of the Indian Ocean and South-East Asia to consider doing so, and to participate in their work;

26. *Invites* regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements to ensure that all States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participate in such arrangements, in accordance with the Convention and the Agreement;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community, relevant intergovernmental organizations, the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, and to invite them to provide the Secretary-General with information relevant to the implementation of the present resolution;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, and consisting of elements to be provided by the General Assembly in its resolution on fisheries to be adopted at its fifty-eighth session;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", a sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments".

RESOLUTION 57/143

Adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 12 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.50 and Add.1, sponsored by: Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Guinea, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Tonga, Tuvalu, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu

57/143. Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks

The General Assembly,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea ("the Convention"),[198] and bearing in mind the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks ("the Agreement"),[199]

Recalling also its resolution 56/13 of 28 November 2001, and bearing in mind its resolution 57/142 of 12 December 2002,

Recognizing that, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement sets forth provisions concerning the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, including provisions on subregional and regional cooperation in enforcement, binding dispute settlement and the rights and obligations of States in authorizing the use of vessels flying their flags for fishing on the high seas,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Agreement, and noting that the entry into force of the Agreement entails responsibilities for States parties and other important considerations as outlined in the Agreement,

Welcoming also the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[200] in particular those relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Deploring the fact that the straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks in many parts of the world are overfished or subject to sparsely regulated and heavy fishing efforts, mainly as a result of, inter alia, unauthorized fishing, inadequate regulatory measures and excess fishing capacity,

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[198] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[199] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. I; see also A/CONF.164/37.

[200] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I.

Recognizing that insufficient monitoring, control and surveillance measures and inadequate flag State control over vessels fishing for straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks in many parts of the world exacerbate the problem of overfishing, and recognizing also the urgent need for capacity-building in monitoring, control and surveillance measures and addressing inadequate flag State control for developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States,

Noting the obligation of all States, pursuant to the provisions of the Convention, to cooperate in the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks,

Conscious that the Agreement requires States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, taking into account the specific characteristics of the subregion or region, to ensure the effective conservation, management and long-term sustainability of such stocks, and to establish such organizations or arrangements where none exist,

Recognizing the obligation of States to cooperate, either directly or through subregional, regional or global organizations, to enhance the ability of developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to conserve and manage straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and to develop their own fisheries for such stocks,

Calling attention to the circumstances affecting fisheries in many developing States, in particular African States and small island developing States,

Taking into account that, in accordance with the Convention, the Agreement and the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[201] States fishing for straddling fish stocks or highly migratory fish stocks on the high seas, and relevant coastal States, shall give effect to their duty to cooperate either directly or by becoming members of the subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or participants in arrangements of that nature, or by agreeing to apply the conservation and management measures established by such organizations or arrangements, and that States having a real interest in the fisheries concerned may become members of such organizations or participants in such arrangements,

Recognizing the importance of the Agreement for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks and the need for the regular consideration by the General Assembly of developments relating thereto,

Noting the outcomes of the first informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, and taking into account the recommendations to the General Assembly by the States parties that participated in that meeting,[202]

Emphasizing that, as recognized during the first informal consultations of States parties to the Agreement, implementation of the provisions in Part VII of the Agreement is fundamental to the successful implementation of the Agreement and, in particular, to assisting developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, in meeting their obligations and realizing their rights under the Agreement,

Welcoming the conclusion of negotiations, and the ongoing preparatory work, to establish new regional instruments, arrangements and organizations in several heretofore unmanaged fisheries, and noting the role of the Convention and the Agreement, while taking into account the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, in the elaboration of these instruments, arrangements and organizations,

Welcoming also the fact that a growing number of States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, as well as regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, have enacted legislation, established regulations, adopted conventions or taken other measures as steps towards implementation of the provisions of the Agreement,

1. *Expresses its deep satisfaction* at the entry into force of the Agreement;[199]

2. *Calls upon* all States, and entities referred to in the Convention[198] and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, that have not done so to ratify or accede to it and to consider applying it provisionally;

3. *Calls upon* all States that have not done so, in order to achieve the goal of universal participation, to become parties to the Convention, which sets out the legal framework within which all activities in the oceans and seas must be carried out, taking into account the relationship between the Convention and the Agreement;

4. *Reaffirms* the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[200] in particular those relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks;

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[201] *International Fisheries Instruments with Index* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.98.V.11), sect. III.

[202] See A/57/57/Add.1.

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the effective implementation of the provisions of the Agreement, including those provisions relating to bilateral, regional and subregional cooperation in enforcement, and urges continued efforts in this regard;

6. *Urges* all States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, to pursue cooperation in relation to straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, either directly or through appropriate subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements, to ensure the effective conservation, management and long-term sustainability of such stocks, to agree upon measures necessary to coordinate and, where there are no subregional or regional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in respect of particular straddling or highly migratory fish stocks, to cooperate to establish such organizations or enter into other appropriate arrangements;

7. *Welcomes* the initiation of negotiations and ongoing preparatory work to establish regional and subregional fisheries management organizations or arrangements in several fisheries, and urges participants in those negotiations to apply provisions of the Convention and the Agreement to their work;

8. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that their vessels comply with the conservation and management measures that have been adopted by subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in accordance with relevant provisions of the Convention and of the Agreement;

9. *Invites* States and international financial institutions and organizations of the United Nations system to provide assistance according to Part VII of the Agreement, including, if appropriate, the development of special financial mechanisms or instruments to assist developing States, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, to enable them to develop their national capacity to exploit fishery resources, including developing their domestically flagged fishing fleet, value-added processing and the expansion of their economic base in the fishing industry, consistent with the duty to ensure the proper conservation and management of those fisheries resources;

10. *Invites* States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to develop projects, programmes and partnerships with relevant stakeholders and mobilize resources for the effective implementation of the outcome of the African Process for the Protection and Development of the Marine and Coastal Environment, and to consider the inclusion of fisheries components in this work;

11. *Also invites* States and relevant intergovernmental organizations to further implement sustainable fisheries management and improve financial returns from fisheries by supporting and strengthening relevant regional fisheries management organizations, as appropriate, such as the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism and such agreements as the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific;

12. *Recognizes* the benefits of developing a programme of assistance with multiple components in accordance with Part VII of the Agreement, to complement programmes at the bilateral, subregional, regional and global levels;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his next report on the status and implementation of the Agreement a background study on current activities under Part VII of the Agreement, and emphasizes the importance of this request to the successful development of terms of reference for a Part VII fund, calls for the study to include a survey of current assistance programmes under way in support of Part VII principles and an analysis of such programmes, and requests that the study be completed before the next round of informal consultations of the Secretary-General with States parties to the Agreement;

14. *Considers* that one component of a programme of assistance to be developed in accordance with Part VII of the Agreement should be the establishment of a voluntary trust fund (Part VII fund) within the United Nations system, to support developing States parties, in particular the least developed among them and small island developing States, dedicated to Part VII implementation, notes the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the specialized agency responsible for fisheries, and that of the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat as the secretariat for the Agreement, and requests the Committee on Fisheries of the Food and Agriculture Organization at its next meeting to consider its participation in the development and management of the Part VII fund;

15. *Urges* States parties to the Agreement to develop detailed terms of reference for the Part VII fund, and requests that the following activities be considered for early implementation through the Part VII fund:

(*a*) Facilitating the participation of developing States parties in relevant regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

(*b*) Assisting with travel costs associated with the participation of developing States parties in meetings of relevant global organizations;

(*c*) Supporting ongoing and future negotiations to establish new regional or subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements in areas where such bodies are not currently in place, and to strengthen existing subregional and regional fisheries management organizations and arrangements;

(*d*) Building capacity for activities in key areas such as monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and scientific research;

(*e*) Exchanging information and experience on the implementation of the Agreement;

(*f*) Assisting with human resources development and technical assistance;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of outreach to potential donor organizations to contribute to the programme of assistance;

17. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of its resolution 56/13, and requests the Secretary-General to convene a second round of informal consultations with States that have either ratified or acceded to the Agreement, for the purposes and objectives of considering the national, regional, subregional and global implementation of the Agreement, and making any appropriate recommendation to the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, and entities referred to in the Convention and in article 1, paragraph 2 (*b*), of the Agreement, not party to the Agreement, as well as the United Nations Development Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and other specialized agencies, the Commission on Sustainable Development, the World Bank, the Global Environment Facility and other relevant international financial institutions, regional fishery bodies and arrangements and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the second round of informal consultations with States parties to the Agreement as observers;

19. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to develop, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, a voluntary survey to solicit information from States parties and other States that may wish to participate, as well as regional and subregional fisheries management organizations and arrangements, on activities related to the implementation of provisions of the Agreement, similar to the survey currently in use by the Food and Agriculture Organization concerning implementation of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries,[201] with a view to encouraging through this mechanism a greater exchange of information with regard to implementation of the Agreement, and to include the results of the survey in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, on the understanding that such a report will also be available to the second round of informal consultations of States parties for their consideration;

20. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments", taking into account information provided by States, relevant specialized agencies, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and other appropriate organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, as well as other relevant intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations, and consisting of elements to be provided by the General Assembly in its resolution on fisheries to be adopted at the fifty-eighth session;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea", a sub-item entitled "Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments".

RESOLUTION 57/144

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.61, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

57/144. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration as the outcome of the Millennium Summit of the United Nations, held at Headquarters from 6 to 8 September 2000, as well as its resolutions 55/162 of 14 December 2000 and 56/95 of 14 December 2001 on the follow-up,

Recognizing the important contributions made by the conferences and special sessions, in particular the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held in Doha, the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa,

Reaffirming the importance of the implementation of and follow-up to the Millennium Declaration in a comprehensive, integrated, coordinated and balanced manner at the national, regional and international levels,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[203]

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[203] A/57/270 and Corr.1.

2. *Recognizes* the uneven progress made so far in achieving the objectives agreed upon in the Millennium Declaration, and urges Member States to continue to undertake with determination appropriate measures towards its implementation;

3. *Invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, and encourages other interested parties, including civil society and the private sector, to continue to pursue vigorously the achievement of the objectives and goals contained in the Millennium Declaration;

4. *Also invites* the organizations and agencies of the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to engage in the review of the implementation of the Millennium Declaration, and in this context requests the Secretary-General to include in his next report information on the support to be provided by the United Nations system in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* Member States to support, as appropriate, the measures set forth in the thematic sections of the report on preventing armed conflict, and the treatment and prevention of major diseases, including the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), malaria and tuberculosis;

6. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-eighth session, convening a high-level plenary meeting during the sixtieth session of the General Assembly on the review of the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and consideration of the quinquennial comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the progress achieved towards implementing the Millennium Declaration;

7. *Also decides* that the review process of the implementation of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration will be considered within the framework of the integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields, while taking into account the need to attach more importance, coherence and visibility to the implementation of the Millennium Declaration and its review process;

8. *Invites* the United Nations system, in cooperation with Member States, to promote awareness of the Millennium Declaration, and the development goals contained therein, through increased dissemination of information and widespread publicity;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit".

RESOLUTION 57/145

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.6/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, China, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Georgia, India, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, South Africa, Ukraine

57/145. Responding to global threats and challenges

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the coordinating and leading role of the United Nations in establishing a cohesive and effective system for responding to global threats and challenges,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[204] which state that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to manage threats to international peace and security and to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level,

Noting with concern various global threats and challenges, in particular those posed by international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, transnational organized crime, regional conflicts, poverty, unsustainable development, illicit drug trafficking, money-laundering, infectious diseases, environmental degradation, natural disasters, complex emergency situations and others,

Recognizing the importance, in the context of implementing the Millennium Declaration, of a comprehensive approach aimed at addressing global threats and challenges in accordance with the Charter, international law and relevant international instruments,

Welcoming the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure the coordinated implementation of all the provisions of the Millennium Declaration,

1. *Acknowledges* the importance of further adapting the United Nations to address the threats and challenges of the twenty-first century and the need to enhance the overall effectiveness and complementarity of the United Nations system in combating international terrorism and transnational organized crime, in promoting peace, security, disarmament, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, development and poverty eradication, in protecting the environment, in providing humanitarian response and in other fields, as well as the need to increase interaction between the United Nations and other international and regional organizations;

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[204] See resolution 55/2.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the executive heads of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, and taking into account the views of Member States and those of international and regional organizations cooperating with the United Nations, to study ways and means to promote further, with the United Nations lead, in the context of implementation of the Millennium Declaration[204] in all its aspects, a more comprehensive and coherent response to the global threats and challenges of the twenty-first century;

3. *Invites* Member States and the relevant regional and other organizations to contribute their views on the issues referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above to the Secretary-General;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include his observations on the issues referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above in his report on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/146

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.43/Rev.1 and Add.1, as orally revised, sponsored by: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/146. Special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on special assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling also all resolutions of the Security Council and the statements by its President regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling further the Ceasefire Agreement signed in Lusaka[205] and the Kampala disengagement plan,[206] the obligations of all signatories to those agreements and the obligations deriving from all relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolution 1304 (2000) of 16 June 2000,

Reaffirming the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and all States in the region,

Alarmed at the plight of the civilian population throughout the country, and calling for its protection,

Gravely concerned at the deteriorating humanitarian, economic and social situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in eastern Congo, and at the effect of the continued fighting on the inhabitants of the country, especially women and children,

Deeply concerned at the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, in particular among women and girls, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Expressing its deep concern at the dire consequences of the conflict for the humanitarian and human rights situations and at the findings contained in the reports on the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo[207] in this regard,

Gravely concerned at the negative impact of war on the promotion of sustainable development in the Great Lakes Region,

Deeply concerned at the continued extensive destruction of life and property, as well as the severe damage to infrastructure and the environment suffered by the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Bearing in mind the fact that the Democratic Republic of the Congo hosts thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries, which places a great burden on its limited resources, and expressing the hope that conditions will be created that will facilitate a safe and voluntary return of refugees,

Recalling that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a least developed country with severe economic and social problems arising from its weak economic infrastructure and aggravated by the ongoing conflict,

Bearing in mind the close interrelationship between ensuring peace and security and the ability of the country to meet the humanitarian needs of its people and take effective steps towards the rapid revitalization of the economy, and reaffirming the urgent need to assist the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its damaged economy and in its efforts to restore basic services and the infrastructure of the country,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[208]

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[205] S/1999/815, annex.

[206] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

[207] See S/2001/357, S/2001/1072 and S/2002/1146.

[208] A/57/377.

2. *Welcomes* the signature by the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda of the Peace Agreement in Pretoria on 30 July 2002[209] and the signature by the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Uganda of the Luanda Agreement on 6 September 2002, and also welcomes the efforts of the Governments of South Africa and Angola, and of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in facilitating the adoption of these agreements;

3. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease military activities and to cease any support for armed groups;

4. *Welcomes* the decision taken by all foreign parties fully to withdraw their troops from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as well as the progress made in the implementation of those processes, stresses the importance of the withdrawals being completed in a transparent, orderly and verified manner, and calls upon the signatories to these agreements to implement them fully;

5. *Urges* all parties concerned in the region to cease any recruitment, training and use of child soldiers, welcomes the initial steps taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to demobilize and reintegrate child soldiers, and urges the Government and all parties to continue their efforts in this regard;

6. *Welcomes* the commitment of the Congolese parties to achieve an inclusive agreement on the political transition, stresses the importance of such an agreement to the wider peace process, and calls upon all Congolese parties to cooperate actively with a view to the speedy conclusion of such an agreement which is needed for improved humanitarian access;

7. *Stresses* that a successful conclusion to the peace process and the resumption of economic activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are inextricably linked, and underlines the need for further international economic assistance in this regard;

8. *Expresses its deep concern* at the worsening humanitarian situation throughout the country and the very high number of internally displaced persons in the eastern part and, in particular, in the Ituri region, and urges all parties to avoid further population displacement and to facilitate the safe and voluntary return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of origin;

9. *Also expresses its deep concern* especially at the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the Ituri region, calls upon all Congolese parties on the ground to cooperate fully within the Ituri Pacification Commission with a view to reaching an agreement promptly, and calls upon all States in the region to bring their influence to bear on the Congolese parties so that this agreement can be reached as soon as possible;

10. *Welcomes* the adoption of new coordination mechanisms aimed at ensuring a coherent and effective response to the multifaceted humanitarian crisis in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

11. *Urges* compliance with international human rights law, and urges all parties to respect international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 1949[210] and the additional Protocols thereto, of 1977;[211]

12. *Urges* all parties to respect fully international humanitarian law so as to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

13. *Calls* for the reopening of the Kisangani-Kindu rail and river link in order to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, as well as access for humanitarian personnel;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to increase its support for humanitarian relief activities within the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

15. *Invites* Governments to continue to provide support to the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To continue to consult urgently with regional leaders, in coordination with the Interim President of the African Union, on ways to bring about a peaceful and durable solution to the conflict, in accordance with the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement[205] and relevant Security Council resolutions;

(*b*) To continue to consult with regional leaders, in coordination with the Interim President of the African Union, in order to convene, when appropriate, an international conference on peace, security and development in Central Africa and in the Great Lakes region, under the auspices of the United Nations and the African Union, to address the problems of the region in a comprehensive manner;

(*c*) To keep under review the economic situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to promoting participation in and support for a programme of financial and material assistance to the country to enable it to meet its urgent needs in terms of economic recovery and reconstruction;

(*d*) To submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the actions taken pursuant to the present resolution.

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[209] S/2002/914, annex.

[210] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[211] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

RESOLUTION 57/147

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.51 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

57/147. Assistance to the Palestinian people

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/111 of 14 December 2001, as well as previous resolutions on the question,

Recalling also the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements in Washington, D.C., on 13 September 1993, by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian people,[212] and the subsequent implementation agreements concluded by the two sides,

Gravely concerned at the deterioration in the living conditions of the Palestinian people throughout the occupied territory, which constitutes a mounting humanitarian crisis,

Conscious of the urgent need for improvement in the economic and social infrastructure of the occupied territory,

Aware that development is difficult under occupation and is best promoted in circumstances of peace and stability,

Noting the great economic and social challenges facing the Palestinian people and their leadership,

Conscious of the urgent necessity for international assistance to the Palestinian people, taking into account the Palestinian priorities,

Noting the convening of the United Nations seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people, held in Vienna on 20 and 21 February 2001, to review the state of the Palestinian economy,[213]

Stressing the need for the full engagement of the United Nations in the process of building Palestinian institutions and in providing broad assistance to the Palestinian people, and welcoming in this regard the establishment by the Quartet of the Task Force on Palestinian Reform,

Noting the appointment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority,

Welcoming the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington, D.C., on 1 October 1993, the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee and the work being done by the World Bank as its secretariat and the establishment of the Consultative Group, as well as all follow-up meetings and international mechanisms established to provide assistance to the Palestinian people,

Welcoming also the work of the Joint Liaison Committee, which provides a forum in which economic policy and practical matters related to donor assistance are discussed with the Palestinian Authority,

Stressing the continued importance of the work of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee in the coordination of assistance to the Palestinian people,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[214]

Expressing grave concern at the continuation of the recent tragic and violent events that have led to many deaths and injuries,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[214]

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Personal Humanitarian Envoy of the Secretary-General on the humanitarian conditions and needs of the Palestinian people;[215]

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his rapid response and efforts regarding assistance to the Palestinian people;

4. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Member States, United Nations bodies and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have provided and continue to provide assistance to the Palestinian people;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority and of the steps taken under the auspices of the Secretary-General to ensure the achievement of a coordinated mechanism for United Nations activities throughout the occupied territories;

6. *Urges* Member States, international financial institutions of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and regional and interregional organizations to extend, as rapidly and as generously as possible, economic and social assistance to the Palestinian people, in close cooperation with the Palestine

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[212] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[213] See A/56/89-E/2001/89, annex.

[214] A/57/130-E/2002/79.

[215] Available on the Internet at http://domino.un.org/bertini_rpt.htm.

Liberation Organization and through official Palestinian institutions;

7. *Calls upon* relevant organizations and agencies of the United Nations system to intensify their assistance in response to the urgent needs of the Palestinian people in accordance with Palestinian priorities set forth by the Palestinian Authority;

8. *Urges* Member States to open their markets to exports of Palestinian products on the most favourable terms, consistent with appropriate trading rules, and to implement fully existing trade and cooperation agreements;

9. *Calls upon* the international donor community to expedite the delivery of pledged assistance to the Palestinian people to meet their urgent needs;

10. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of ensuring the free passage of aid to the Palestinian people and the free movement of persons and goods;

11. *Urges* the international donor community, United Nations agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to extend as rapidly as possible emergency economic and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people to counter the impact of the current crisis;

12. *Stresses* the need to implement the Paris Protocol on Economic Relations of 29 April 1994, fifth annex to the Israeli-Palestinian Interim Agreement on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, signed in Washington, D.C., on 28 September 1995,[216] in particular with regard to the full and prompt clearance of Palestinian indirect tax revenues;

13. *Suggests* the convening in 2003 of a United Nations-sponsored seminar on assistance to the Palestinian people;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution, containing:

(*a*) An assessment of the assistance actually received by the Palestinian people;

(*b*) An assessment of the needs still unmet and specific proposals for responding effectively to them;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Assistance to the Palestinian people".

RESOLUTION 57/148

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.54 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

57/148. Humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, and reaffirming that humanitarian assistance should be provided in accordance with the guiding principles contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/96 F of 15 December 1999, 55/169 of 14 December 2000 and 56/101 of 14 December 2001, concerning humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance and the rehabilitation support rendered by a number of States, in particular major contributors, international agencies and organizations and non-governmental organizations to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the affected population in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in particular emergency assistance provided by the European Union and various countries,

Recognizing the role of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe and the stabilization and association process for the western Balkans in assisting the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts in further promoting democratic and economic reforms and in intensifying regional cooperation,

Deeply appreciative of the humanitarian assistance given to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia through the United Nations consolidated inter-agency appeal for South-Eastern Europe, and the humanitarian assistance provided by many Member States outside the framework of the consolidated appeal, through non-governmental organizations, regional organizations and initiatives and bilateral channels,

Welcoming the fact that, at the donor conference hosted jointly by the World Bank and the European Commission in Brussels on 29 June 2001, the programme for reform and development of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia received strong support and confirmed that meeting the basic needs of vulnerable groups within the refugee, displaced and resident population remains a priority for humanitarian agencies,

Concerned at the continued urgency of the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, aware of the magnitude of the humanitarian requirements of major parts of the population, and recognizing the need to ensure effective links between relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development efforts in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia,

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[216] A/51/889-S/1997/357, annex.

Aware of the weakness of the economy and basic services, which exacerbates further the situation of socially and economically vulnerable segments of the population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and which is coupled with limited basic social services capacity, especially in the health sector,

Acknowledging that a large number of refugees and internally displaced persons remain in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and that assistance requirements will include local integration, whenever refugees and internally displaced persons are not willing to return to their places of origin,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[217]

Taking note also of the reports on the humanitarian situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia prepared by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in Belgrade,[218]

Recognizing the role of the United Nations in helping the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to resolve the humanitarian problems that confront it and in coordinating the efforts of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the country,

Acknowledging the support of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in completing the National Strategy for Resolving Problems of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and international support for developing a poverty reduction strategy and a Roma integration strategy in 2002,

Recognizing a decrease in humanitarian assistance in 2002 due to a shift in donor funding which is progressively being reoriented to longer-term development assistance and the developments in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia towards stabilization, transition and development programmes,

1. *Calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to continue to provide humanitarian assistance to alleviate the humanitarian needs of the vulnerable refugees and internally displaced persons, bearing in mind in particular the special situation of women, children, the elderly and other vulnerable groups, while seeking durable solutions for a safe return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their places of origin, or for settlement at their place of refuge for those who want to integrate locally, in cooperation with the local authorities;

2. *Also calls upon* all States, regional organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant bodies to offer support to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in its efforts to ensure the transition from relief to the long-term goals of the rehabilitation, reconstruction and development of the country;

3. *Welcomes* the continued commitment of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and encourages it to cooperate further with the United Nations system and humanitarian organizations to address the humanitarian needs of the affected population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and urges the relevant authorities and the international community to support programmes that will ensure that the humanitarian needs of the vulnerable refugees and internally displaced persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia are met and to pursue durable solutions to their plight, in particular voluntary repatriation and reintegration, stresses the need to create conditions that are conducive to their safe return, and emphasizes in this regard the importance of regional cooperation in the search for solutions to the plight of refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States and international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to assist financially and otherwise in the establishment of durable solutions for the refugees and internally displaced persons, inter alia, through the implementation of the National Strategy for Resolving Problems of Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

5. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, as well as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other agencies, to continue to mobilize the timely provision of international humanitarian and development assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

6. *Recognizes* that there will be no United Nations consolidated humanitarian appeal for 2003 and nevertheless emphasizes the importance of the coordination of humanitarian assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, inter alia, through the mechanisms of the United Nations resident coordinator system;

7. *Requests* the United Nations and the specialized agencies to continue their efforts to assess the humanitarian needs, in cooperation with the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, relevant international and regional organizations and bodies and interested States, with a view to ensuring effective links between relief and longer-term assistance to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, taking into account the work already carried out in this field and the need to avoid duplication and the overlapping of efforts;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the

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[217] A/57/174.

[218] See www.reliefweb.int.

United Nations, including special economic assistance", a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/149

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.57 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/149. Emergency humanitarian assistance to Ethiopia

The General Assembly,

Noting with concern the recurrent drought that affects Ethiopia, and its consequences,

Recalling the initiative of the Secretary-General of 13 September 2000 to improve food security in the Horn of Africa over the long term,

Gravely concerned at the magnitude of the current drought, which may affect up to fifteen million people owing to the serious crop failures in drought-prone parts of the country that have weak infrastructures and low development capacities,

Bearing in mind the 2003 appeal for emergency assistance for Ethiopia, launched on 6 December 2002 by the United Nations and the Government of Ethiopia, to respond to the looming famine situation and to prevent the imminent humanitarian crisis,

Noting with serious concern the dire humanitarian situation and its long-term socio-economic and environmental impact,

Emphasizing the need to address the crisis bearing in mind the importance of the transition from relief to development, and acknowledging the underlying structural causes for the recurrent famine in Ethiopia,

Recognizing that the main responsibility for improving the humanitarian situation and creating conditions for long-term development lies with the Government of Ethiopia, while bearing in mind the important role played by the international community,

1. *Calls upon* the international community to urgently and effectively respond to the unfolding and imminent humanitarian crisis, which may affect up to fifteen million people in the country, consisting of crop producers and pastoralists;

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, the international community and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to strengthen mechanisms already in place to respond to such emergency situations;

3. *Also welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to tackle the recurrent drought in the country on a long-term basis, and in this regard calls for its serious consideration by the relevant organizations;

4. *Calls upon* the international community to respond as a matter of urgency to the crisis, based on the requirements of the 2003 appeal for emergency assistance for Ethiopia covering food and non-food needs, as well as to the urgent needs of programme interventions in early 2003, addressing issues of recovery, asset protection and the sustainable development of the chronically affected areas;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Government of Ethiopia to increase the availability of food through domestic production, to ensure access to food for households in need and to strengthen emergency response capabilities;

6. *Invites* the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to continue considering ways to enhance the mobilization of emergency relief assistance for Ethiopia;

7. *Calls upon* all development partners to stress the need to integrate relief efforts with recovery, asset protection and long-term development and to address the underlying structural causes for the recurrent famine in Ethiopia, inter alia, in line with the poverty reduction strategy paper, including strategies aimed at preventing such crises in the future and that improve the resilience of the population;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/150

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.60 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America

57/150. Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the

United Nations system, and its resolutions 54/233 of 22 December 1999, 55/163 of 14 December 2000, 56/103 of 14 December 2001 and 56/195 of 21 December 2001, and recalling agreed conclusions 1998/1[219] and 1999/1[220] of the Economic and Social Council and Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development,[221]

Deeply concerned by the increasing number and scale of disasters, resulting in massive losses of life and property worldwide, as well as their long-term consequences, especially severe for developing countries,

Reaffirming that the sovereignty, territorial integrity and national unity of States must be fully respected in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and, in this context, humanitarian assistance should be provided with the consent of the affected country and, in principle, on the basis of an appeal by the affected country,

Reaffirming also that each State has the responsibility first and foremost to take care of the victims of natural disasters and other emergencies occurring on its territory and, hence, the affected State has the primary role in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of disasters,

Noting the critical role played by local rescuers in natural disaster response as well as existing in-country capacities,

Emphasizing the importance of timely, coordinated and technically sound international assistance provided in close coordination with the receiving State, in particular in the field of urban search and rescue following earthquakes and other events resulting in structural collapse,

Noting with appreciation, in this respect, the important contribution made by international urban search and rescue teams in the aftermath of disasters, which has helped to reduce loss of life and human suffering,

Commending the work of the United Nations Disaster Assistance and Coordination teams in facilitating rapid need assessments and assisting Member States to organize the on-site coordination of international urban search and rescue operations,

Concerned at the procedural requirements applicable to the movement of foreign nationals and equipment to and within a country that may impinge on the timely acceptance, deployment to the disaster site and activities of international urban search and rescue teams,

Also concerned that an additional burden may be placed on the resources of the affected countries by those international urban search and rescue teams which are inadequately trained or equipped,

Noting the efforts made by Member States, facilitated by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance,

Noting also that the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies is identifying the current state of international law relating to disaster response for a report to be submitted to States and national Red Cross and Red Crescent societies at the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in December 2003, and emphasizing the need for intergovernmental oversight of this process, particularly with regard to its principles, scope and objectives,

Recognizing, in this regard, the Guidelines developed by the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, as a flexible and helpful reference tool for disaster preparedness and response efforts,

1. *Stresses* the need to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, with the aim of contributing towards saving more human lives;

2. *Encourages* efforts aiming at the strengthening of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group and its regional groups, particularly through the participation in its activities of representatives from a larger number of countries;

3. *Urges* all States, consistent with their applicable measures relating to public safety and national security, to simplify or reduce, as appropriate, the customs and administrative procedures related to the entry, transit, stay and exit of international urban search and rescue teams and their equipment and materials, taking into account the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning visas for the rescuers and the quarantining of their animals, the utilization of air space and the import of search and rescue and technical communications equipment, necessary drugs and other relevant materials;

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[219] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (A/53/3 and Corr.1), chap. VII, para. 5.

[220] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[221] A/57/578.

4. *Also urges* all States to undertake measures to ensure the safety and security of international urban search and rescue teams operating in their territory;

5. *Further urges* all States that have the capacity to provide international urban search and rescue assistance to take the necessary measures to ensure that international urban search and rescue teams under their responsibility are deployed and operate in accordance with internationally developed standards as specified in the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, particularly concerning timely deployment, self-sufficiency, training, operating procedures and equipment, and cultural awareness;

6. *Reaffirms* the leadership role of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator in supporting the authorities of the affected State, upon their request, in coordinating multilateral assistance in the aftermath of disasters;

7. *Encourages* the strengthening of cooperation among States at the regional and subregional levels in the field of disaster preparedness and response, with particular respect to capacity-building at all levels;

8. *Encourages* Member States, with the facilitation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to continue efforts to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, including the further development of common standards;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a comprehensive, updated report with recommendations on progress in the improvement of efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, taking into account the extent of utilization of the Guidelines of the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group.

RESOLUTION 57/151

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.62 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, Romania, Senegal, Somalia, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/151. Assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/232 of 21 December 1990, 46/147 of 17 December 1991, 47/154 of 18 December 1992, 48/197 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 E of 20 December 1994, 50/58 A of 12 December 1995, 51/30 B of 5 December 1996, 52/169 E of 16 December 1997, 53/1 I of 16 November 1998 and 55/176 of 19 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[222]

Commending the Economic Community of West African States and the United Nations for their collaborative efforts with the Government of Liberia in its peace-building objectives,

Emphasizing its great concern over the grave humanitarian and security situation prevailing in Liberia, which holds serious implications for security in the subregion,

1. *Expresses its gratitude* to the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Economic Community of West African States and non-governmental organizations for their valuable support in the provision of humanitarian assistance and their adoption of a comprehensive approach to peace-building in Liberia and the subregion;

2. *Calls upon* all parties involved in the ongoing conflict to respect fully the provisions of international humanitarian law and, in this regard, to ensure safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of Liberia and the safety of United Nations and humanitarian personnel;

3. *Expresses its gratitude* to all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations for their assistance and support for the peace-building process in Liberia, and urges that such assistance be continued;

4. *Invites* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to provide assistance, as appropriate, to Liberia to facilitate the creation of an enabling environment for the promotion of peace, regional security and socio-economic development;

5. *Urges* the Government of Liberia to provide an enabling environment for the promotion of socio-economic development and a culture of sustained peace in the country, including a commitment to upholding the rule of law, national reconciliation and human rights, establishing inclusive processes that will ensure free and fair presidential and general elections in October 2003 and encourage maximum participation, to contribute to reducing tension and promoting sustainable and peaceful political development in the subregion;

6. *Urges* the Government of Liberia, the United Nations system and all States to strengthen their commitment in responding to the humanitarian needs of the Liberian people;

7. *Renews its appeal* to the Government of Liberia to cooperate with the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other organizations in addressing the need for rehabilitation and reconstruction, and stresses the need for the Government of

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[222] A/57/301.

Liberia to assist and protect the civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons, regardless of their origin;

8. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his continuing efforts to mobilize international assistance for the development and reconstruction of Liberia, and requests him to continue his efforts to mobilize all possible assistance within the United Nations system to help in the reconstruction and development of Liberia, including the return and reintegration of refugees, displaced persons and demobilized soldiers;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-ninth session the question of international assistance for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of Liberia.

RESOLUTION 57/152

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.63 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mexico, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela

57/152. International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991, the annex to which contains the guiding principles for the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations system, and its resolutions 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, 54/219 and 54/233 of 22 December 1999, 55/163 of 14 December 2000 and 56/103 of 14 December 2001, and recalling agreed conclusions 1999/1 of the Economic and Social Council[223] and Council resolutions 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Recognizing the importance of the principles of neutrality, humanity and impartiality for the provision of humanitarian assistance,

Emphasizing that the affected State has the primary responsibility in the initiation, organization, coordination and implementation of humanitarian assistance within its territory, and in the facilitation of the work of humanitarian organizations in mitigating the consequences of natural disasters,

Emphasizing also the responsibility of all States to undertake disaster preparedness and mitigation efforts in order to minimize the impact of natural disasters,

Welcoming the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Stressing that national authorities need to enhance the resilience of populations to disasters through implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction so as to reduce risks to people, their livelihoods, the social and economic infrastructure and environmental resources,

Welcoming the efforts of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the United Nations Development Programme to strengthen the coordination of their activities in the field of disaster prevention, mitigation and management,

Emphasizing the importance of raising awareness among developing countries of the capacities existing at the national, regional and international levels that could be deployed to assist them,

Emphasizing also the importance of international cooperation in support of the efforts of the affected States in dealing with natural disasters in all their phases, including prevention, preparedness, mitigation and recovery and reconstruction, and of strengthening the response capacity of affected countries,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, with facilitation by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, and in this context noting its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002 entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance",

Mindful of the effects that shortfalls in resources can have on the preparedness for and response to natural disasters,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General entitled "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of natural disasters, from relief to development"[224] and "Strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations";[225]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters and their increasing impact, resulting in

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[223] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

[224] A/57/578.

[225] A/57/77-E/2002/63.

massive losses of life and property worldwide, in particular in vulnerable societies lacking adequate capacity to mitigate effectively the long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences of natural disasters;

3. *Calls upon* all States to adopt, where required, and to continue to implement effectively necessary legislative and other appropriate measures to mitigate the effects of natural disasters, inter alia, by disaster prevention, including building regulations and appropriate land use, as well as disaster preparedness and capacity-building in disaster response and mitigation, and requests the international community to continue to assist developing countries, as appropriate, in this regard;

4. *Stresses*, in this context, the importance of strengthening international cooperation, particularly through the effective use of multilateral mechanisms, in the provision of humanitarian assistance for all phases of a disaster, from relief and mitigation to development, including through the provision of adequate resources;

5. *Also stresses* that humanitarian assistance for natural disasters should be provided in accordance with and with due respect for the guiding principles contained in the annex to resolution 46/182 and should be determined on the basis of the human dimension and needs arising out of the particular natural disasters;

6. *Recognizes* that economic growth and sustainable development contribute to improving the capacity of States to mitigate, respond to and prepare for natural disasters;

7. *Reaffirms* that disaster risk analysis and vulnerability reduction form an integral part of sustainable development strategies and need to be considered in development plans of all vulnerable countries and communities, including, where appropriate, in plans relating to the transition from relief to development, and also affirms that within such preventive strategies, disaster preparedness and early warning systems must be further strengthened at the country and regional levels, inter alia, through better coordination among relevant United Nations bodies and cooperation with Governments of affected countries and regional and other relevant organizations with the aim of maximizing the effectiveness of natural disaster response and reducing the impact of natural disasters, particularly in developing countries;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of enhanced international cooperation, including with the United Nations and regional organizations, to assist developing countries in their efforts to build capacities and to predict, prepare for and respond to natural disasters;

9. *Stresses* the need for partnership among Governments of the affected countries, organizations of the United Nations system, relevant humanitarian organizations and specialized companies to promote training to strengthen preparedness for and response to natural disasters;

10. *Also stresses* the need to promote the access to and transfer of technology related to early warning systems and to mitigation programmes to developing countries affected by natural disasters;

11. *Encourages* the further use of space-based and ground-based remote-sensing technologies for the prevention, mitigation and management of natural disasters, where appropriate;

12. *Also encourages* in such operations the sharing of geographical data, including remotely sensed images and geographic information system and global positioning system data among Governments, space agencies and relevant international humanitarian organizations, as appropriate, and also notes in that context initiatives such as those undertaken by the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters and the Global Disaster Information Network;

13. *Stresses* that particular international cooperation efforts should be undertaken to enhance and broaden further the utilization of national and local capacities and, where appropriate, regional and subregional capacities of developing countries for disaster preparedness and response, which may be made available in closer proximity to the site of a disaster, more efficiently and at lower cost;

14. *Welcomes* the role of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat as the focal point within the overall United Nations system for the promotion and coordination of disaster response among the United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian partners;

15. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the positions of regional disaster response advisers by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, as well as the initiative of the United Nations Development Programme to establish regional disaster reduction adviser positions, and encourages the further development of these initiatives in a coordinated and complementary manner in order to assist developing countries in capacity-building for disaster prevention, preparedness, mitigation and response;

16. *Encourages* further cooperation between the United Nations system and regional organizations in order to increase the capacity of these organizations to respond to natural disasters;

17. *Encourages* States that have not signed or ratified the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations, adopted at Tampere, Finland, on 18 June 1998, to consider doing so;

18. *Invites* the United Nations system to explore further the concept of transitional recovery teams for providing assistance for bridging relief assistance and development cooperation;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with relevant organizations and partners, to continue progress on compiling a directory of disaster mitigation capacity at the national, regional and international levels as well as the Directory of Advanced Technologies for Disaster Response as a new part of the Central Register of Disaster Management Capacities;[226]

20. *Welcomes* the global review of disaster reduction initiatives coordinated by the secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and emphasizes the importance of periodic review as a means of discussing disaster trends, assessing policies aimed at mitigating the impact of disaster and offering examples of successful initiatives;

21. *Encourages* donors to consider the importance of ensuring that assistance in the case of higher-profile natural disasters does not come at the expense of those that may have a relatively lower profile, bearing in mind that the allocation of resources should be driven by needs, as well as the importance of making efforts to increase the level of assistance for disaster reduction and preparedness programmes and for disaster response and mitigation activities;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine the overall situation regarding the mobilization of resources for response to natural disasters and to consider concrete recommendations to improve the international response to natural disasters, as necessary, based on his examination, keeping in mind also the need to address any geographical and sectoral imbalances and shortfalls in such responses, where they exist, as well as the more effective use of national emergency response agencies, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/153

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.64 and Add.1, sponsored by: Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Yugoslavia, Zambia

57/153. Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[227]

Taking note also of the note by the Secretary-General on enhancing the functioning and utilization of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund,[228] submitted pursuant to resolution 56/107 of 14 December 2001,

Stressing the need to address further the issues of funding, coordination and strategic planning in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies, in particular in the transition from relief to development activities,

Deeply concerned about the aggravating effects that major diseases, in particular the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) pandemic, cause in the context of natural disasters and complex emergencies,

Concerned at the need to mobilize adequate levels of financing for emergency humanitarian assistance,

Noting with interest the efforts of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee to develop the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises,

Welcoming the efforts of Member States, with the facilitation of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and in cooperation with the International Search and Rescue Advisory Group, to improve efficiency and effectiveness in the provision of international urban search and rescue assistance, and recalling its resolution 57/150 of 16 December 2002, entitled "Strengthening the effectiveness and coordination of international urban search and rescue assistance",

1. *Welcomes* the outcome of the fifth humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council during its substantive session of 2002;

2. *Also welcomes* the progress made by the Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the discussion of humanitarian policies and activities in the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

4. *Calls upon* relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, Governments and non-governmental organizations to cooperate with the Secretary-General and the Emergency Relief

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[226] www.reliefweb.int/ocha_ol/programs/response/register.html.

[227] A/57/77-E/2002/63.

[228] A/57/613.

Coordinator to ensure timely implementation of and follow-up to resolutions and agreed conclusions of the humanitarian affairs segment of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue to consider ways to enhance further the humanitarian affairs segment of the future sessions of the Council, including through the adoption of negotiated outcomes of its deliberations;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to inform Governments regularly about the use of the Central Emergency Revolving Fund and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the utilization of the Fund;

7. *Calls upon* the relevant humanitarian and development organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international organizations, including the Bretton Woods institutions, Governments and non-governmental organizations to review and work towards greater alignment of their planning and resource mobilization tools so as to facilitate the transition from relief to development, and to report to the Secretary-General on actions taken in this respect;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to address, as appropriate and in collaboration with relevant actors, in particular the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, ways and means of strengthening the humanitarian response and for the mobilization of greater resources in connection with emergency humanitarian assistance in areas with a high prevalence of major diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, taking into account the impacts of major diseases, in particular HIV/AIDS, on vulnerable communities and the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[229] and to report on actions taken in this respect;

9. *Stresses* the importance of the timely implementation of the Plan of Action on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, and urges the Standing Committee to continue to refine the Plan and follow-up activities consistent with experience gained at the field level;

10. *Commends* the Emergency Relief Coordinator and his staff for their activities in emergency information management, and stresses that there is a need for national authorities, relief agencies and other relevant actors to continue to improve the sharing of relevant information related to natural disasters and complex emergencies, including on disaster response and mitigation, and to take full advantage of United Nations emergency information services, such as ReliefWeb and the Integrated Regional Information Network;

11. *Emphasizes* that coordination of humanitarian assistance within the United Nations system is a mandate of the Secretary-General, as reflected in resolution 46/182, and that the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs should benefit from adequate and more predictable funding, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in this regard;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2003, on the progress made in strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations, including the implementation of and follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002 and the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/154

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.65 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

57/154. Assistance for humanitarian relief and the economic and social rehabilitation of Somalia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/160 of 18 December 1992 and subsequent relevant resolutions, in particular resolution 56/106 of 14 December 2001,

Recalling also Security Council resolution 733 (1992) of 23 January 1992 and subsequent relevant resolutions, in which the Council, inter alia, urged all parties, movements and factions in Somalia to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent humanitarian assistance to the affected population in Somalia, and reiterated the call for the full respect of the security and safety of the personnel of those organizations and guarantee of their complete freedom of movement in and around Mogadishu and other parts of Somalia,

Recalling further statements by the President of the Security Council of 31 October 2001[230] and 28 March 2002,[231] by which the Security Council condemned attacks on humanitarian personnel and called upon all parties in Somalia to respect fully the security and safety of personnel of the United

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[229] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[230] S/PRST/2001/30; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

[231] S/PRST/2002/8; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations, and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and access throughout Somalia,

Affirming its continuing support for the Intergovernmental Authority on Development resolutions of 24 November 2000 and 11 January 2002, which provide a general framework for the Somali reconciliation process,

Welcoming, in that regard, the Declaration on Cessation of Hostilities and the Structures and Principles of the Somalia National Reconciliation Process, adopted in Eldoret, Kenya, on 27 October 2002[232] by the various Somali parties, including the Transitional National Government, which represents a fundamental step that will ensure a wider consensual basis for further participation and peace,

Also welcoming the launch of the six working committees to address the core issues of the peace process,

Noting the linkage between the search for peace and alleviation of the humanitarian crisis in Somalia,

Firmly supporting the initiative sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for national reconciliation in Somalia, reiterating its strong support for the national reconciliation process and the ongoing peace conference being held in Eldoret, and urging all parties throughout Somalia to participate in the process, in accordance with the framework established by the Intergovernmental Authority,

Recalling its firm support for the peace and reconciliation process sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for Somalia and for the efforts of its Technical Committee, comprising the frontline States of Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti, and coordinated by Kenya, for its role in facilitating the process,

Noting the cooperation between the United Nations, the African Union the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and others in their efforts to resolve the humanitarian, security and political crisis in Somalia, and bearing in mind the respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of Somalia,

Noting with concern the prevailing serious drought situation in the Horn of Africa, in particular the affected areas of Somalia,

Noting with grave concern the dire humanitarian situation that the Somali people face and the urgent need for humanitarian assistance and relief,

Noting with appreciation the continued efforts made by the Secretary-General to assist the Somali people in their efforts to promote stability, peace and national reconciliation, and underlining its strong resolve to support in a practical manner the United Nations system in its incremental approach to peace-building and targeted assistance, focused on the rehabilitation and reconstruction of infrastructure and on sustainable community-based activities,

Welcoming the continued focus of the United Nations, in partnership with civil society at the grass-roots level, on programmes of assistance, including both humanitarian and development approaches, taking into consideration the conditions on the ground,

Re-emphasizing the importance of further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services throughout the country,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General,[233]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for his continued and tireless efforts to mobilize assistance for the Somali people;

2. *Encourages* the further implementation of its resolution 47/160 to rehabilitate basic social and economic services throughout Somalia;

3. *Reiterates its full support* for the peace process sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and the efforts of the Technical Committee coordinated by Kenya, and invites the Intergovernmental Authority and its member States to continue their efforts to promote national reconciliation in Somalia;

4. *Welcomes* the Declaration on Cessation of Hostilities and the Structures and Principles of the Somalia National Reconciliation Process,[232] and other agreements reached thus far in Eldoret as an important step towards the overriding objective of ending the violence affecting and the suffering of the Somali people, recognizes that they provide new and significant opportunities for the solution of the Somali crisis, and calls upon all the Somali parties to make the most of the current momentum and to do everything in their power to ensure that the conference continues its work and its success;

5. *Also welcomes* the strong support of the United Nations, the African Union, the League of Arab States, the European Union, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development and its Partners Forum, the Movement of Non-Aligned States and others for their positive contribution to the peace process in Somalia, and appeals to all countries and the international organizations to continue to exercise their influence to support

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[232] S/2002/1359, annex.

[233] A/57/180 and S/2002/1201.

the peace conference and to consolidate the reconciliation process;

6. *Calls upon* all Somali parties, including the Transitional National Government, individuals, political leaders and factions in Somalia, to respect the security and safety of the personnel of the United Nations, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations and to guarantee their complete freedom of movement and safe access throughout Somalia, and welcomes the commitment taken in that respect by all Somali parties at the Eldoret conference;

7. *Welcomes* the strategy of the United Nations focusing on the implementation of community-based interventions aimed at rebuilding local infrastructures and increasing the self-reliance of the local population, and the ongoing efforts by the United Nations agencies, their Somali counterparts and their partner organizations to establish and maintain close coordination and cooperation mechanisms available for the implementation of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction programmes;

8. *Recognizes* that a comprehensive programme of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of militias is a condition for sustainable peace and stability in Somalia;

9. *Notes* the incremental and prioritized approach of the United Nations system to addressing the continuing crisis and needs in Somalia while maintaining long-term commitments to rehabilitation, recovery and development activities;

10. *Urges* the international community to provide as a matter of urgency humanitarian assistance and relief to the Somali people to alleviate in particular the consequences of the prevailing drought;

11. *Emphasizes* the principle that the Somali people have the primary responsibility for their own development and for the sustainability of rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance programmes, and reaffirms the importance it attaches to the creation of a workable arrangement for collaboration between the United Nations system and its partner organizations and their Somali counterparts for the effective creation of rehabilitation and development activities in those parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

12. *Urges* all States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to continue to implement further its resolution 47/160 in order to assist the Somali people in embarking on the rehabilitation of basic social and economic services, as well as institution-building aimed at the restoration of structures of civil governance at all levels in all parts of the country in which peace and security prevail;

13. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to mobilize international humanitarian, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

14. *Calls upon* the international community to provide continuing and increased assistance in response to the United Nations 2003 Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for Somalia;

15. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the establishment of the Trust Fund for Peace-Building in Somalia, welcomes the contributions made thus far to the Fund, and appeals to Member States to contribute to it;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of the critical situation in Somalia, to take all necessary and practicable measures for the implementation of the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/155

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.66 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Yugoslavia

57/155. Safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 53/87 of 7 December 1998, 54/192 of 17 December 1999, 55/175 of 19 December 2000 and 56/217 of 21 December 2001 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel, as well as resolutions 52/167 of 16 December 1997 on safety and security of humanitarian personnel and 52/126 of 12 December 1997 on protection of United Nations personnel, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict[234] and of Security Council resolutions 1265 (1999) of 17 September 1999 and 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 and the recommendations made therein, as well as the statements by the President of the Council of 30 November 1999, on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts,[235] 13 January 2000, on humanitarian assistance to refugees in Africa,[236] 9 February 2000, on protection of United Nations personnel, its associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones,[237] 9 March 2000, on humanitarian aspects of issues before the Council,[238] and 15 March 2002, on the aide memoire for the consideration of issues pertaining to the protection of civilians in armed conflict,[239] and noting in that context the range of views expressed during all open debates of the Council on these issues,

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[234] S/2001/331 and S/2002/1300.

Taking note also of the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,[240] as well as the report of the Special Committee[241] on the report of the Panel on United Nations Peace Operations[242] and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the report of the Panel,[243]

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the growing number of complex humanitarian emergencies in the past few years, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, which have dramatically increased the loss of human lives, in particular of civilians, the suffering of victims, flows of refugees and internally displaced persons, as well as material destruction, which disrupt the development efforts of the countries affected, in particular those of developing countries,

Concerned by the increasingly difficult context in which humanitarian assistance takes place in some areas, in particular the continuous erosion, in many cases, of respect for the principles and rules of international humanitarian law,

Deeply concerned by the dangers and security risks faced by humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to improve the current security management system in order to improve their safety and security,

Expressing profound regret at the deaths of all international and national humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel who were involved in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and strongly deploring the rising toll of casualties among such personnel in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations,

Strongly condemning acts of murder and other forms of violence, rape and sexual assault, intimidation, armed robbery, abduction, hostage-taking, kidnapping, harassment and illegal arrest and detention to which those participating in humanitarian operations are increasingly exposed, as well as attacks on humanitarian convoys and acts of destruction and looting of their property,

Strongly condemning also all incidents in many parts of the world in which humanitarian personnel have been deliberately targeted,

Expressing concern that the occurrence of attacks and threats against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel is a factor that increasingly restricts the ability of the Organization to provide assistance and protection to civilians in fulfilment of its mandate under the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming that ensuring the safety and security of United Nations personnel constitutes an underlying duty of the Organization, which must be based on a necessary cost-sharing arrangement with the relevant agencies, funds and programmes within the United Nations system,

Recalling that primary responsibility under international law for the security and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel lies with the Government hosting a United Nations operation conducted under the Charter or its agreements with relevant organizations,

Urging all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[244] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto, of 8 June 1977,[245] to ensure the security and protection of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel,

Recalling the inclusion of attacks intentionally directed against personnel involved in a humanitarian assistance or peacekeeping mission in accordance with the Charter as a war crime in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which was adopted on 17 July 1998 and entered into force on 1 July 2002,[246] and noting the role that the Court could play in appropriate cases in bringing to justice those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law,

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[235] S/PRST/1999/34; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

[236] S/PRST/2000/1; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

[237] S/PRST/2000/4; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

[238] S/PRST/2000/7; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 2000.*

[239] S/PRST/2002/6; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002.*

[240] A/55/1024 and Corr.1.

[241] A/C.4/55/6.

[242] See A/55/305-S/2000/809.

[243] A/55/502.

[244] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[245] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[246] See *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

Welcoming the fact that the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, which entered into force on 15 January 1999,[247] has been ratified or acceded to by sixty-three States as at the present date,

Mindful of the need to promote universality of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Reaffirming the fundamental requirement that appropriate modalities for the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel be incorporated into all new and ongoing United Nations field operations, and welcoming in that regard the development of minimum operating security standards,

Welcoming the efforts of the United Nations system to develop higher aviation safety and security standards in humanitarian and peacekeeping missions,

Increasingly concerned at the need to ensure adequate levels of safety and security for United Nations personnel and humanitarian personnel and a culture of accountability at all levels, from the highest to the lowest, throughout the United Nations system,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on a framework for accountability for the United Nations field security management system,[248] in which a new mechanism to ensure accountability and responsibility in the area of field security is introduced,

Commending the recent efforts by the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes aimed at the improvement of security management and training of their personnel,

Commending also the courage and commitment of those who take part, often at great personal risk, in humanitarian operations, especially of locally recruited staff,

Guided by the relevant provisions on protection contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946,[249] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of 21 November 1947,[250] the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War of 12 August 1949[251] and the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, and Amended Protocol II of 3 May 1996[252] to the Convention on Prohibitions and Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects of 10 October 1980,[253]

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[254]

2. *Urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the full and effective implementation of the relevant principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the relevant provisions of human rights and refugee law related to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel;

3. *Also urges* all States to take the necessary measures to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel and to respect and ensure respect for the inviolability of United Nations premises, which are essential to the continuation and successful implementation of United Nations operations;

4. *Calls upon* all other parties involved in armed conflicts, in compliance with international humanitarian law, in particular their obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions[244] and the obligations applicable to them under the Additional Protocols thereto,[245] to ensure the safety and protection of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, to refrain from abducting or detaining them in violation of their immunity under relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law, and speedily to release, without harm, any abductee or detainee;

5. *Calls upon* all Governments and parties in complex humanitarian emergencies, in particular in armed conflicts and in post-conflict situations, in countries in which humanitarian personnel are operating, in conformity with the relevant provisions of international law and national laws, to cooperate fully with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies and organizations and to ensure the safe and unhindered access of humanitarian personnel in order to allow them to perform efficiently their task of assisting the affected civilian population, including refugees and internally displaced persons;

6. *Strongly condemns* any act or failure to act, contrary to international law, which obstructs or prevents humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel from discharging their humanitarian functions, or which entails being subjected to threats, the use of force or physical attack, frequently resulting in injury or death, and affirms the need to hold accountable

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[247] Resolution 49/59, annex.

[248] A/57/365.

[249] Resolution 22 A (I).

[250] Resolution 179 (II).

[251] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[252] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[253] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5, 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[254] A/57/300.

those who commit such acts and, for that purpose, the need to enact national legislation, as appropriate;

7. *Expresses deep concern* that over the past decade, threats against the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel have escalated at an unprecedented rate and that perpetrators of acts of violence seemingly operate with impunity;

8. *Urges* all States to take stronger actions to ensure that any threat or act of violence committed against humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel on their territory is investigated fully and to ensure that the perpetrators of such acts are brought to justice in accordance with international law and national law;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure full respect for the human rights, privileges and immunities of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation and to continue to consider ways and means in which to strengthen the protection of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation, notably by seeking the inclusion, in negotiations of headquarter and other mission agreements concerning United Nations and its associated personnel, of the applicable conditions contained in the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[249] the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies[250] and the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;[247]

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of paying special attention to the safety and security of United Nations and its associated personnel engaged in United Nations peacekeeping and peace-building operations;

11. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements;

12. *Calls upon* all States to provide adequate and prompt information in the event of arrest or detention of humanitarian personnel or United Nations and its associated personnel, to afford them the necessary medical assistance and to allow independent medical teams to visit and examine the health of those detained, and urges them to take the necessary measures to ensure the speedy release of United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation who have been arrested or detained in violation of their immunity, in accordance with the relevant conventions referred to in the present resolution and applicable international humanitarian law;

13. *Encourages* all States to become parties to and respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, including the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

14. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[246]

15. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel to observe and respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations operation are properly informed about the conditions under which they are called upon to operate, including relevant customs and traditions in the host country, and the standards that they are required to meet, including those contained in relevant domestic and international law, and that adequate training in security, human rights and international humanitarian law is provided so as to enhance their security and effectiveness in accomplishing their functions, and reaffirms the necessity for all other humanitarian organizations to provide their personnel with similar support;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures to ensure that United Nations and other personnel carrying out activities in fulfilment of the mandate of a United Nations humanitarian assistance operation are properly informed about and operate in conformity with relevant codes of conduct, including the core principles of conduct defined by the Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises set up within the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

18. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary measures, falling within his responsibilities, to ensure that security matters are an integral part of the planning for existing and newly mandated United Nations operations and that such precautions extend to all United Nations and its associated personnel;

19. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator to continue to play a central role in promoting increased cooperation and collaboration among agencies, funds and programmes in the planning and implementation of measures aimed at improving staff security training and awareness;

20. *Emphasizes* the need to give further consideration to the safety and security of locally recruited humanitarian personnel, who account for the majority of casualties;

21. *Stresses* the need to ensure that all United Nations staff members receive adequate security training, including physical and psychological training, prior to their deployment to the field, the need to attach a high priority to the improvement of stress and trauma counselling services available to United Nations staff members, including through the implementation of a comprehensive security and stress and trauma management training, support and assistance programme for United Nations staff throughout the system, before, during and after missions, and the need to make available to the Secretary-General the means for that purpose;

22. *Underlines* the need to allocate adequate and predictable resources to the safety and security of United Nations personnel, including through the Consolidated Appeals Process, and encourages all States to contribute to the Trust Fund for Security of Staff Members of the United Nations System;

23. *Welcomes* the appointment of a full-time United Nations Security Coordinator at the level of Assistant Secretary-General, and reaffirms the need to further strengthen security coordination and management and to sustain the initiatives aimed at increasing the efficacy of the security management system;

24. *Also welcomes* the establishment of an Inter-Agency Security Management Network, and encourages all relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to continue to participate at an appropriate level;

25. *Recognizes* the need for a strengthened and unified security management system for the United Nations, both at the headquarters and the field levels, and requests the United Nations system, as well as Member States, to take all appropriate measures to that end;

26. *Also recognizes* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation, both at the headquarters and the field levels, between the United Nations security management system and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, with a view to addressing mutual security concerns in the field;

27. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work being done by the Ad Hoc Committee, established in accordance with resolution 56/89 of 12 December 2001 and open to all Member States or members of the specialized agencies or of the International Atomic Energy Agency, to consider the recommendations made by the Secretary-General in his report on measures to strengthen and enhance the protective legal regime for United Nations and its associated personnel;[255]

28. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, which have been ratified so far by one hundred and forty-six States and one hundred and seven States, respectively;

29. *Recalls* the essential role of telecommunication resources in facilitating the safety of humanitarian personnel and United Nations and its associated personnel, calls upon States to consider signing and ratifying the Tampere Convention on the Provision of Telecommunication Resources for Disaster Mitigation and Relief Operations of 18 June 1998, and encourages them, pending the entry into force of the Convention, to facilitate and expedite, consistent with their national laws and regulations, the use of communications equipment in such operations, and emphasizes the importance of States facilitating communications, inter alia, through limiting and, whenever possible, lifting the restrictions placed on the use of communications equipment by United Nations and its associated personnel;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-eighth session a comprehensive and updated report on the safety and security situation of humanitarian personnel and protection of United Nations personnel and on the implementation of the present resolution, including the progress made by the Secretary-General in pursuing accountability and assessing responsibility for all individual security incidents that involve United Nations and its associated personnel at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as an account of the measures taken by Governments and the United Nations to prevent and respond to such incidents, also taking into account the information requested from the Secretary-General in resolution 57/28 of 19 November 2002.

RESOLUTION 57/156

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 92 to none, with 65 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.23/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland,

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[255] See A/55/637.

Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Dominica, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zimbabwe

57/156. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Agreement between the Council of Europe and the Secretariat of the United Nations signed on 15 December 1951 and the Arrangement on Cooperation and Liaison between the secretariats of the United Nations and the Council of Europe of 19 November 1971,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the protection and strengthening of democracy, human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the protection of national minorities, and the rule of law on the European continent, including its activities against racism and intolerance, the promotion of gender equality, social development and a common cultural heritage,

Acknowledging also that, with its significant expertise in the field of human rights, democratic institutions and the rule of law, the Council of Europe is contributing to conflict prevention, confidence-building and long-term post-conflict peace-building through political, legal and institutional reform,

Stressing the importance of adherence to the standards and principles of the Council of Europe and its contribution to the solution of conflicts throughout the whole of Europe,

Acknowledging the contribution of the Council of Europe to the development of international law, inter alia, international criminal law,

Noting the increasing openness of the Council of Europe, through its legal instruments, to the participation of States of other regions,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[256]

2. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the ongoing fruitful cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Council of Europe, both at the level of headquarters and in the field;

3. *Welcomes* the further development of close cooperation between the Council of Europe, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Economic Commission for Europe;

4. *Notes* the role the Council of Europe has played in facilitating the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[257] and the readiness of the Council to provide its member States with the appropriate assistance with a view to them becoming parties to and implementing the Rome Statute;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution of the Council of Europe to the implementation of the Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,[258] including the follow-up action taken by the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance;

6. *Notes* the opening for signature on 3 May 2002 in Vilnius of Protocol No. 13 to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,[259] concerning the abolition of the death penalty in all circumstances;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the substantial contribution of the Council of Europe to the special session of the General Assembly on children, held from 8 to 10 May 2002, and notes the adoption by the Council of the European Convention on the Exercise of Children's Rights,[260] which entered into force in 2000;

8. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the contributions of the Council of Europe to the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, and particularly to its follow-up process, through activities involving Governments, parliamentarians, local and regional authorities and civil society organizations, aimed at turning the commitments made at the Conference into specific actions;

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[256] A/57/225.

[257] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[258] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[259] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, vol. II: *Regional Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.XIV.1), sect. B, No. 8.

[260] Ibid., sect. B, No. 35.

9. *Further expresses its appreciation* for the substantial contribution of the Council of Europe to the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, as well as its contributions to the follow-up work, for example, concerning education for sustainable development, carried out by its North-South Centre;

10. *Commends strongly* the contribution of the Council of Europe to international action against terrorism, welcomes the work of the Council's Multidisciplinary Group on International Action against Terrorism aimed, inter alia, at strengthening legal cooperation in the fight against terrorism, and in this context welcomes the approval on 7 November 2002 by the Committee of Ministers at its one hundred and eleventh session of the content of the draft protocol amending the European Convention on the Suppression of Terrorism[261] which was opened for signature in 1977;

11. *Welcomes* the assessment made by the Committee of Ministers at its one hundred and eleventh session on each of the three cornerstones it had defined in 2001 for the contribution of the Council of Europe to United Nations-led international action against terrorism, namely intensifying legal cooperation to combat terrorism, safeguarding fundamental values and investing in democracy;

12. *Commends* the Council of Europe for its contribution to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001, and takes note in this context of the Council of Europe's Guidelines on Human Rights and the Fight against Terrorism, adopted by its Committee of Ministers on 11 July 2002[262] and referred to in the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on measures to eliminate international terrorism;[263]

13. *Welcomes* the accession to the Council of Europe of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 24 April 2002, and expresses its appreciation for the cooperation and assistance the Council extends to this country in order to facilitate its compliance with Council standards of democracy, human rights and the rule of law;

14. *Takes note* of Opinion No. 239 adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on 24 September 2002, in which the Assembly recommended that the Committee of Ministers, on the basis of a series of commitments accepted by the highest Yugoslav authorities, invite the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to become a member of the Council as soon as the constitutional Charter had been adopted by the Parliaments of Serbia and Montenegro;

15. *Notes* that the Ministers of the forty-four member States, at the one hundred and eleventh session, reiterated their common will to see the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia become a member of the Council of Europe, while at the same time regretting that circumstances at present did not yet permit the adoption of an official invitation to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to join the Council;

16. *Welcomes* the ongoing participation of the Council of Europe in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 and its cooperation with the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, and commends the role of the Council of Europe in the development of democratic institutions, inter alia, in respect of the decentralization process, human rights protection and the rule of law in accordance with the standards of the Council of Europe;

17. *Commends* the role of the Council of Europe with regard to the electoral process in Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in preparation for the municipal elections which were held on 26 October 2002;

18. *Welcomes* the substantial contribution of the Council of Europe to the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, in particular in the fields of democratization, local democracy, human rights and the rule of law, as well as cross-border cooperation and the fight against corruption, organized crime and money-laundering;

19. *Commends* the wide-ranging efforts of the Council of Europe to foster peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe;

20. *Welcomes* the Vilnius Declaration on Regional Cooperation and the Consolidation of Democratic Stability in Greater Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 3 May 2002,[264] and the efforts of the Council to promote cooperation among the regional organizations, initiatives and processes in Europe and between them and the United Nations and other international organizations;

21. *Commends* the work of the Council of Europe in relation to the protection of national minorities, in particular the monitoring by the Committee of Ministers of the implementation of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities;[265]

22. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the active role of the Council of Europe in the tripartite meetings between the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council;

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[261] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1137, No. 17828.

[262] A/57/313, annex I.

[263] A/57/183/Add.1.

[264] See A/56/942, annex II.

[265] *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, vol. II: *Regional Instruments* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.XIV.1), sect. B, No. 34.

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue exploring, with the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, possibilities for further enhancement of cooperation, information exchange and coordination between the United Nations and the Council;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/157

Adopted at the 75th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.55/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela

57/157. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/15 of 3 November 2000 relating to the promotion of cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States,

Taking note with satisfaction of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States,[266]

Recalling that the purposes of the United Nations are, inter alia, to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of these common ends,

Recalling also that the Charter of the Organization of American States reaffirms these purposes and principles and provides that that organization is a regional agency under the terms of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolutions 47/20 A of 24 November 1992, 47/20 B of 20 April 1993, 48/27 B of 8 July 1994, 49/5 of 21 October 1994, 49/27 B of 12 July 1995, 50/86 B of 3 April 1996, 51/4 of 24 October 1996 and 53/9 of 22 October 1998,

Taking account of the Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City, Canada, from 20 to 22 April 2001,

Noting that the International Civilian Support Mission in Haiti completed its mandate in March 2001,

Aware of the increasing cooperation between bodies of the inter-American system for the protection of human rights and those pertaining to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights,

Noting with grave concern the spread of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic in the region and the need for increased financial resources and affordable essential drugs,

Noting that the General Assembly of the Organization of American States has agreed to convene a special conference on security in Mexico City in May 2003,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States[266] and his continuing efforts to strengthen that cooperation;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Organization of American States Special Mission for Strengthening Democracy in Haiti commenced operations in June 2002 and that the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala continues to collaborate with the Organization of American States on its thematic projects;

3. *Recognizes* the work of the Organization of American States towards the promotion and the protection of democracy in the Americas, in the field of regional cooperation and in connection with its task of coordination with the United Nations;

4. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Office of the Regional Adviser to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in Santiago on 1 November 2001;

5. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to strengthen cooperation with inter-American institutions in various fields, including hemispheric integration, statistics, women and development;

6. *Recommends* that a general meeting of representatives of the United Nations system and of the Organization of American States be held in 2003 for the continued review and appraisal of cooperation programmes and of other matters to be mutually decided upon;

7. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the exchange with the Organization of American States of information and substantive reports, including reports on the advancement in the status of women, on matters relating to youth and on the eradication of poverty;

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[266] A/57/267.

8. *Emphasizes* that the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States should be undertaken in accordance with their respective mandates, scope and composition and be suited to each specific situation, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States".

RESOLUTION 57/158

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.59 and Add.1, sponsored by: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belarus, Canada, China, Egypt, France, Greece, Guatemala, Indonesia, Italy, Kuwait, Lebanon, Madagascar, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Yemen, Zambia

57/158. United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling the international conventions dealing with the protection of cultural and natural heritage, including the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict adopted at The Hague in 1954[267] and the two Protocols thereto, the 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property,[268] and the 1972 Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage,[269] as well as the 1989 Recommendation on the Safeguarding of Traditional Culture and Folklore[270] and the 2001 Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[271]

Welcoming the ratification of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage by one hundred and seventy-five States parties, and noting the inscription of more than seven hundred and thirty sites on the World Heritage List,

Mindful of the importance of protecting the world cultural tangible and intangible heritage as a common ground for the promotion of mutual understanding and enrichment among cultures and civilizations,

Bearing in mind the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[272] which calls for actions to promote sustainable tourism development in order to increase the benefits from tourism resources for the population in host communities while maintaining the cultural and environmental integrity of host communities and enhancing the protection of ecologically sensitive areas and natural heritages by, inter alia, enhancing international cooperation,

Noting the work already undertaken to protect the world cultural and natural heritage by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, including international campaigns,

Taking into consideration the thirtieth anniversary of the Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage in 2002,

Taking note of the decision taken by the Executive Board of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its one hundred and sixty-fourth session with regard to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002,[273]

Recalling its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage and invited the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to serve as the lead agency for the year,

1. *Declares* the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage concluded;

2. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in collaboration with States, observers, relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, other international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, to continue to intensify the implementation of programmes, activities and projects aimed at the promotion and protection of the world cultural heritage;

3. *Invites* Member States and observers to continue to promote education and raise public awareness to foster respect for national and world cultural heritage;

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[267] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[268] Ibid., vol. 823, No. 11806.

[269] Ibid., vol. 1037, No. 15511.

[270] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-fifth Session, Paris, 17 October–16 November 1989*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, annex I.B.

[271] Ibid., *Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum: *Resolutions*, resolution 25, annex I.

[272] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[273] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Decisions Adopted by the Executive Board at its One Hundred and Sixty-fourth Session, Paris, 21–30 May 2002* (164 EX/Decisions), decision 7.1.2.

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of further developing international mechanisms for safeguarding and protecting the world cultural heritage, and encourages the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to explore possible ways to intensify international cooperation in this regard, inter alia, by considering the merits of convening an international conference on strengthening and consolidating international mechanisms for safeguarding and protecting the world cultural heritage;

5. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to address and present to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session an overview of the activities undertaken during the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage".

RESOLUTION 57/159

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.53 and Add.1, sponsored by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

57/159. Assistance in mine action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/7 of 19 October 1993, 49/215 of 23 December 1994, 50/82 of 14 December 1995, 51/149 of 13 December 1996 and 52/173 of 18 December 1997, on assistance in mine clearance, and its resolutions 53/26 of 17 November 1998, 54/191 of 17 December 1999, 55/120 of 6 December 2000 and 56/219 of 21 December 2001, on assistance in mine action, all adopted without a vote,

Recognizing that, in addition to the primary role of States, the United Nations has a significant role to play in the field of assistance in mine action, and considering mine action to be an important and integrated component of United Nations humanitarian and development activities,

Reaffirming its deep concern at the tremendous humanitarian and development problems caused by the presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance that constitute an obstacle to the return of refugees and other displaced persons, to humanitarian aid operations and to reconstruction and economic development, as well as to the restoration of normal social conditions, and that have serious and lasting social and economic consequences for the populations of mine-affected countries,

Bearing in mind the serious threat that mines and other unexploded ordnance pose to the safety, health and lives of local civilian populations, as well as of personnel participating in humanitarian, peacekeeping and rehabilitation programmes and operations,

Encouraged by the reduction in the number of new mine victims, but reiterating its dismay at the existing high number of victims of mines and other unexploded ordnance, especially among civilian populations, including women and children, and recalling in this context Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1995/79 of 8 March 1995,[274] 1996/85 of 24 April 1996,[275] 1997/78 of 18 April 1997,[276] 1998/76 of 22 April 1998,[277] 1999/80 of 28 April 1999,[278] 2000/85 of 27 April 2000,[279] 2001/75 of 25 April 2001[280] and 2002/92 of 26 April 2002[281] on the rights of the child, and resolutions 1996/27 of 19 April 1996,[275] 1998/31 of 17 April 1998,[277] 2000/51 of 25 April 2000[279] and 2002/61 of 25 April 2002[281] and decision 1997/107 of 11 April 1997,[282] on the human rights of persons with disabilities,

Deeply alarmed by the number of mines that continue to be laid each year, as well as the presence of a decreasing but still very large number of mines and other unexploded ordnance as a result of armed conflicts, and therefore remaining convinced of the necessity and urgency of a significant increase in mine-clearance efforts by the international community with a view to eliminating the threat of landmines to civilians as soon as possible,

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[274] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

[275] Ibid., *1996, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/1996/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[276] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[277] Ibid., *1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[278] Ibid., *1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[279] Ibid., *2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[280] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[281] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[282] Ibid., *1997, Supplement No. 3* (E/1997/23), chap. II, sect. B.

Noting the inclusion in Amended Protocol II[283] to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[284] of a number of provisions of importance for mine-clearance operations, notably the requirement of detectability, and provision of information and technical and material assistance necessary to remove or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines and booby traps, and noting also that Amended Protocol II to the Convention entered into force on 3 December 1998,

Noting also the conclusions and recommendations adopted at the Third Annual Conference of the States Parties to Amended Protocol II to the Convention, held in Geneva on 10 December 2001,[285]

Recalling that the States parties at the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention decided to explore further the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines, the effects of explosive remnants of wars and possible measures which could reduce the risk of casualties among civilian populations and humanitarian problems after conflicts,

Noting that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[286] which entered into force on 1 March 1999, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations therein to one hundred and thirty,

Noting also the conclusions of the Fourth Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held in Geneva from 16 to 20 September 2002,[287] taking note of the reaffirmed commitments that were made, among other things, to intensify further the efforts in those areas most directly related to the core humanitarian objectives of the Convention, to provide assistance for mine clearance and rehabilitation, the social and economic reintegration of mine victims and mine-risk education programmes and to eradicate anti-personnel mines, and taking note of the work of the intersessional programme established by States parties to the Convention,

Stressing the need to convince mine-affected States to halt new deployments of anti-personnel mines in order to ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of mine-clearance operations,

Stressing also the need to convince non-State actors to halt immediately and unconditionally new deployments of anti-personnel mines,

Recognizing the importance of assisting mine clearance in mine-affected countries by ensuring that the necessary maps and information and appropriate technical and material assistance are provided to help to remove existing minefields, mines, booby traps and other unexploded ordnance,

Noting that the resources allocated to mine clearance and other mine-action activities have increased in recent years, but stressing the need to mobilize additional resources to meet increasing requirements, and encouraging all States, the United Nations and other international, regional and non-governmental organizations to continue their efforts in this regard,

Concerned at the limited availability of safe and cost-effective mine-detection and mine-clearance equipment, as well as the need for effective global coordination in research and development to improve the relevant technology, and conscious of the need to promote further and more rapid progress in this field and to foster international, national and local technical cooperation to that end,

Reaffirming the need to reinforce international and regional cooperation and coordination in the area of mine action and to devote the necessary resources to that end, including resources to support national and regional capacity-building initiatives, where applicable, and the work of the United Nations in that regard,

Welcoming the various established mine-action coordination centres, as well as the creation and existence of international trust funds for mine clearance and other mine-action activities,

Noting with satisfaction the inclusion in the mandates of several peacekeeping operations of provisions relating to mine-action work carried out under the direction of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, in the context of such operations,

Commending the action taken by donor and recipient Governments, the United Nations system, the International Committee of the Red Cross and non-governmental organizations to coordinate their efforts and seek solutions to the problems related to the presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance, as well as their assistance to victims of mines,

Welcoming the role of the Secretary-General in increasing public awareness of the problem of landmines,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[288]

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[283] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex B.

[284] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[285] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.3/4 (Part I) and Corr.1 and 2.

[286] See CD/1478.

[287] See APLC/MSP.4/2002/1.

[288] A/57/430.

2. *Calls*, in particular, for the continuation of the efforts of States, with the assistance of the United Nations and institutions as appropriate, to foster the establishment and development of national mine-action capacities in countries in which mines constitute a serious threat to the safety, health and lives of the local population or an impediment to social and economic development efforts at the national and local levels, and urges all Member States, in particular those that have the capacity to do so, to assist mine-affected countries in the establishment and development of national capacities in mine clearance, mine awareness and victim assistance;

3. *Invites* Member States to develop and support national programmes, where appropriate in cooperation with the relevant bodies of the United Nations system and relevant regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations, to promote awareness of landmines, including among women and children;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors for their financial and in-kind contributions to mine action, including contributions for emergency operations and for national and local capacity-building programmes;

5. *Appeals* to Governments, regional organizations and other donors to continue and, whenever possible, increase their support to mine action through further contributions, including contributions through the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, to allow for the timely delivery of mine-action assistance in emergency situations, and stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader humanitarian and other strategies;

6. *Stresses* the importance of international support for emergency assistance to victims of mines and other unexploded ordnance and for the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of the victims, and also stresses that such assistance should be integrated into broader public health and socio-economic strategies;

7. *Encourages* the finalization of an emergency response plan by the United Nations to respond to emergency mine-action requirements, and emphasizes the need for that plan to build upon all existing capacities;

8. *Encourages* all relevant multilateral and national programmes and bodies to include, in coordination with the United Nations, activities related to mine action in their humanitarian, rehabilitation, reconstruction and development assistance activities, where appropriate, bearing in mind the need to ensure national and local ownership, sustainability and capacity-building;

9. *Encourages* Governments, relevant United Nations bodies and other donors to take further action to promote gender- and age-appropriate mine-risk education programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, thereby reducing the number of child victims and relieving their plight;

10. *Stresses* the importance of cooperation and coordination in mine action, while emphasizing once again the important role of the United Nations in the effective coordination of mine-action activities, based on the United Nations policy on mine action and effective coordination,[289] and especially the role of the Mine Action Service, stresses also the important role that national authorities and regional organizations can play in this regard, and underlines the need for the continuous assessment of these roles by the General Assembly;

11. *Emphasizes* the role of the Mine Action Service as the focal point for mine action within the United Nations system and its ongoing collaboration with and coordination of all mine-related activities of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and in this regard expresses its appreciation of the roles played by other bodies of the United Nations system, in accordance with United Nations mine-action policy;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the implementation of the United Nations mine-action strategy for the period 2001–2005 developed by the Secretary-General,[290] and requests him to review it formally by further seeking and taking into account the views of Member States and taking into consideration the impact of the landmine problem on rehabilitation, reconstruction and development, in order to ensure the effectiveness of assistance in mine action by the United Nations;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of undertaking further multisectoral assessments and surveys to better define the nature, scope and impact of the landmine problem in affected countries and to support the establishment of clear priorities and national plans of action, notes with appreciation the ongoing development by the United Nations of the International Mine Action Standards, with the assistance of the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining and other partners in mine action, to support the safe and effective conduct of mine-action activities, emphasizes the need for an inclusive process to be followed in the development and review of such standards, and encourages the Secretary-General to circulate the completed standards as a United Nations document to all Member States;

14. *Takes note with appreciation* of the information management policy for mine action submitted by the Secretary-General,[291] and emphasizes in this context the importance of developing and maintaining a comprehensive information management system for mine action, following an inclusive and continuous improvement process, under the overall coordination of the Mine Action Service and with the instrumental support of the Geneva International Centre for

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[289] A/53/496, annex II.

[290] See A/56/448 and Add.1 and 2.

[291] See A/56/448/Add.2.

Humanitarian Demining, in order to facilitate the coordination of field activities and the setting of priorities therein;

15. *Requests* the Mine Action Service to develop further the electronic mine information network as a user-friendly repository of mine-related information and as a means for mine-action programmes to circulate on a regular basis to donors and other partners standard reports on the scope and impact of the mine problem, available mine-action resources and capacities and the progress achieved in the field;

16. *Urges* Member States and regional, governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to extend full assistance and cooperation to the Secretary-General and, in particular, to provide him with information and data, as well as other appropriate resources that could be useful in strengthening the coordination role of the United Nations in mine action;

17. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the importance of recording the location of mines, of retaining all such records and making them available to concerned parties upon cessation of hostilities, and welcomes the strengthening of the relevant provisions in international law;

18. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those that have the capacity to do so, to provide the necessary information and technical, financial and material assistance, as appropriate, and to locate, remove, destroy or otherwise render ineffective minefields, mines, booby traps and other devices, in accordance with international law, as soon as possible;

19. *Recognizes* the importance of the various mine-action coordination centres, encourages the further establishment of such centres, including those supported by the United Nations Development Programme or under the auspices of the Mine Action Service, especially in emergency situations, and encourages States to support the activities of those centres and the trust funds established for the coordination and promotion of assistance in mine action;

20. *Urges* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations that have the ability to do so to provide, as appropriate, technological assistance to mine-affected countries and to promote user-oriented scientific research and development on mine-action techniques and technology, within reasonable time frames, so that mine-action activities may be carried out more effectively at lower costs and through safer means and to promote international and local collaboration in this regard;

21. *Encourages* Member States and regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations to continue to support ongoing activities to promote appropriate technology, as well as international operational and safety standards for mine-action activities;

22. *Takes note with appreciation* of the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to study ways and means of increasing public awareness of the impact of the problem of landmines and other unexploded ordnance on affected countries and the presentation of options to this effect to the General Assembly;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the progress achieved on all relevant issues outlined both in his previous reports to the Assembly on assistance in mine clearance and mine action and in the present resolution, including the progress made by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other international and regional organizations as well as national programmes, and on the operation of the Voluntary Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action and other mine-action programmes;

24. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Assistance in mine action".

RESOLUTION 57/160

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.20/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Belize, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, United States of America

57/160. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all its relevant resolutions in which it stresses the importance of international economic, financial and technical cooperation and assistance, both bilateral and multilateral, aimed at promoting economic and social development in the region with a view to furthering and supplementing the efforts of the Central American peoples and Governments to consolidate peace and democracy,

Reaffirming also its resolution 52/169 G of 16 December 1997, concerning international assistance to and cooperation with the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, and the relevant resolutions concerning emergency assistance to the Central American countries as a consequence of the destruction caused by natural disasters,

Taking note of the peaceful and orderly elections held during the past year in Costa Rica, Honduras and Nicaragua, and emphasizing the existence throughout Central America of freely elected Governments, indicating the achievement of political, economic and social changes that are creating a climate conducive to the promotion of economic growth and advancement towards the consolidation and further development of democratic, just and equitable societies,

Emphasizing the importance of the Central American Integration System, the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America, the establishment of the subsystem and of the regional social policy, the model of democratic Central American security, and the implementation of other agreements adopted at the presidential summit meetings,

Recognizing that the consolidation of peace and democracy in Central America is the outcome of a long and arduous process in which obstacles have been encountered but are being overcome through the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the region aimed at continuing progress in the strengthening of peace and democratic institutions,

Noting that in 2002, on the tenth anniversary of the signature of the El Salvador peace agreements, additional steps have been taken towards the successful implementation of the commitments, enabling the completion of the verification work entrusted to the Secretary-General,

Noting with concern that the progress achieved in previous years in the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the Guatemala peace agreements has not maintained the same momentum during the period 2001–2002 and in some aspects has even been reversed,

Recognizing the establishment of offices of human rights defenders throughout Central America and the progress achieved in the field of human rights, which is being supported by public education campaigns to highlight both the responsibilities of States in the field of human rights and the rights and responsibilities of citizens,

Noting with concern the deterioration in the Central American economies, due, inter alia, to an unfavourable international economic climate and the fall in exports, as well as the adverse effects on the efforts of the peoples and Governments of the region to achieve sustainable economic development, and underlining the need for economic reforms,

Noting with concern also that Central America is highly vulnerable to natural disasters and that some countries have not yet been able to overcome the devastating effects of hurricanes Mitch, Keith and Michelle, the earthquakes in El Salvador in January 2001 and the drought that afflicted the entire region in 2001,

Noting that the natural disasters have proved the relevance of environmentally responsible economic and development policies and the need for the Central American nations to consider environmental aspects among all their development objectives,

Bearing in mind the efforts made by the Central American Governments to reduce the risks and mitigate the consequences of the natural disasters in the region, including the adoption of the Strategic Framework for the Reduction of Vulnerability and Disasters in Central America and the Central American Five-Year Plan for the Reduction of Vulnerability to and the Impact of Disasters, 2000 to 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central America;[292]

2. *Commends* the efforts of the peoples and the Governments of the Central American countries to consolidate peace and democracy and promote sustainable development by implementing the commitments adopted at the summit meetings in the region;

3. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the firm determination shown by the Central American Governments to resolve their differences peacefully, thereby avoiding any setback in efforts to consolidate peace, further the process of Central American integration and guarantee the sustainable development of the region;

4. *Urges* the Central American nations to continue to work together to resolve border issues for the greater good of the region and its inhabitants;

5. *Draws attention* to the convening of the Conference on Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central America: Control and Regulation of Weapons Transfers in Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action, held in San José from 3 to 5 December 2001, and welcomes the adoption of a plan of activities recommended for the national and regional implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[293]

6. *Recognizes* the importance of the process of Central American integration, and urges Member States to continue combining efforts to adapt, strengthen and promote even further the Central American integration process, especially in economic, social, cultural and tourism fields, and recalling the Declaration regarding a South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation,[294] appeals to the international community to continue supporting that process in order to contribute to the peace, security and sustainable development of the region;

7. *Reaffirms* the importance of the Puebla-Panama Plan as a means of promoting the economic and social development of the Mesoamerican region, recognizes in that connection the process made in implementing the Plan, and invites the friendly countries of the Mesoamerican region,

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[292] A/57/384 and Add.1.

[293] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV.

[294] See A/57/232, annex, enclosure.

international agencies and international businessmen and investors to support the Mesoamerican countries in the implementation of the projects prioritized in the Plan;

8. *Welcomes* the Mérida Joint Declaration adopted on 28 June 2002 at the Fifth Summit of the Tuxtla Mechanism for Dialogue and Coordination, in which the heads of State and Government of Central America and Mexico expressed their firm commitment to promote deep regional integration through the consolidation of a community of Mesoamerican nations;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the Conference on Information and Communications Technology and Electronic Government for Regional Development and Integration for Central America, convened at Tegucigalpa on 20 November 2002, and, with a view to garnering greater support, requests the United Nations Secretariat to continue rendering support in the areas of information and communications technology and electronic government for the regional development of Central America;

10. *Reiterates* the importance of negotiating trade agreements between the region and its counterparts outside the region with a view to promoting the sustainability of the economic development of the region;

11. *Calls upon* the Central American Governments to continue to fulfil the commitments they have assumed under national, regional and international agreements with a view to enhancing governance in the region, especially in the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of social programmes designed to overcome poverty and unemployment, improve public safety, strengthen the judiciary, consolidate a modern and transparent public administration and eliminate corruption;

12. *Urges* the Central American Governments to redouble their efforts to combat common crime and transnational organized crime with a view to providing greater security for inhabitants and their property, within a framework of full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

13. *Recognizes* the progress achieved in the consolidation of a Mesoamerican biological corridor as a system of territorial classification, comprising natural areas under special administrative regimes, multi-use areas and interconnecting areas in order to contribute to improving the quality of life of the inhabitants of the region;

14. *Reiterates its appreciation* to the people and the Government of El Salvador for their efforts in fulfilling the commitments set forth in the peace agreements, and expresses its profound thanks to the Secretary-General for the commendable way in which he has carried out the verification work entrusted to him, and to the international community for the support it has rendered in order to achieve the objectives of the peace process in El Salvador;

15. *Urges* all Guatemalans, and in particular the Government of Guatemala, to give renewed impetus to the fulfilment of the commitments contained in the peace agreements, in the context of reprogramming for the period 2001–2004, and to the understanding reached during the meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, organized by the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, D.C., on 11 and 12 February 2002;

16. *Reiterates* the need to implement fully the commitments set forth in the Guatemala peace agreements, in particular the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[295] and urges all sectors of society to combine efforts and to work with determination to consolidate peace;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the relevant bodies and programmes of the United Nations system and the international community to continue to support and verify the implementation of the Guatemala peace agreements signed under United Nations auspices, and to consider the implementation of the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

18. *Recognizes* the need to continue to follow closely the situation in Central America in support of national and regional efforts to overcome the underlying causes that have led to armed conflicts, avoid setbacks and consolidate peace and democracy in the region, as well as promote the objectives of the Alliance for the Sustainable Development of Central America;

19. *Commends* the efforts and actions undertaken by the present Government of Nicaragua to combat the scourge of corruption, which threatens to undermine the legitimacy of public institutions in that country, and urges it to continue its actions until that evil has been eradicated, thereby strengthening confidence in the rule of law and the belief of the Nicaraguan people in democracy;

20. *Reaffirms* the importance of international cooperation, in particular cooperation with the bodies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and the donor community in the consolidation of democracy and sustainable development in Central America, and urges them to continue to support Central American efforts to achieve those objectives;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to lend his fullest support to the initiatives and activities of the Central American Governments, in particular their efforts to consolidate democracy through the promotion of integration and the implementation of the comprehensive sustainable development

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[295] See A/53/928, annex.

programme, emphasizing, inter alia, the potential repercussions of natural disasters on the vulnerable economies and political systems of the region, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development".

RESOLUTION 57/161

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.27/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela

57/161. United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/223 of 24 December 2001, in which it decided to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2002,

Taking into account the fact that the Government of Guatemala has reaffirmed its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements,

Underlining the fact that substantive aspects of the peace agreements have yet to be implemented and that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has approved a new schedule for their implementation from 2000 until the end of 2004,

Taking into account the fact that the parties have requested the United Nations to support the consolidation of the peace-building process until 2003,[296]

Taking into account also the thirteenth report of the Mission on human rights,[297]

Taking into account further the seventh report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements,[298]

Taking into account the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification,[299]

Stressing the positive role played by the Mission in support of the Guatemala peace process, and emphasizing the need for the Mission to continue to enjoy the full support of all parties concerned,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Mission[300] and the recommendations contained therein,

1. *Welcomes* the thirteenth report of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala on human rights;[297]

2. *Also welcomes* the seventh report of the Secretary-General on the verification of compliance with the peace agreements;[298]

3. *Recalls* the report of the Commission for Historical Clarification[299] and the recommendations contained therein;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of Guatemala to fulfil its commitment to the full implementation of the peace agreements;

5. *Recalls* that the Commission to Follow up the Implementation of the Peace Agreements has rescheduled the pending commitments and included others not initially scheduled;

6. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General[300] aimed at ensuring that the Mission can respond adequately to the demands of the peace process until 31 December 2003, as well as of his proposal for a further scaling down of the Mission in 2003;

7. *Takes note also* of the agreement reached by the parties regarding the importance of the continuing presence of the Mission in Guatemala until 2003;

8. *Takes note further* of the meeting of the Consultative Group for Guatemala, held in Washington, D.C., in February 2002, which provided new impetus for compliance with the peace agreements, and looks forward to the next Consultative Group meeting planned for the middle of 2003;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made in the implementation of the peace agreements in some areas, in particular significant legislative advances through the approval of a package of laws on decentralization and of a law criminalizing discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity and other criteria;

10. *Also notes with satisfaction* the election of a new Human Rights Ombudsman and a new Public Prosecutor, as well as steps taken to establish a professional judiciary;

11. *Underlines with concern* the fact that a number of key commitments remain outstanding in the areas of fiscal,

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[296] See A/55/389, para. 9.

[297] A/57/336, annex.

[298] A/56/1003.

[299] A/53/928, annex.

[300] A/57/584.

judicial, military, electoral and land reform, as well as rural development and indigenous rights, and therefore urges that those commitments be implemented without further delay;

12. *Also underlines with concern* the budgetary constraints placed on institutions and programmes which are given priority under the peace process, while special budgetary transfers have been made to the armed forces, exceeding both budgetary allocations and targets of the peace agreements;

13. *Notes* that the consolidation of the peace-building process remains a significant challenge that requires a concerted national effort to guarantee the irreversibility of the peace process;

14. *Notes with concern* that the human rights situation has deteriorated, in particular the climate of intimidation has worsened amid an increase in threats and violence against judges, journalists and human rights defenders;

15. *Calls upon* the Government to implement fully the recommendations contained in the report of the Mission on human rights, in particular those related to the systematic impunity for crimes and human rights violations;

16. *Underlines* the importance of implementing fully the Agreement on Identity and Rights of Indigenous Peoples[301] as a key to fighting discrimination and consolidating peace and equality in Guatemala, and highlights the need to implement fully the Agreement on Social and Economic Aspects and Agrarian Situation[302] as a means of addressing the root causes of the armed conflict;

17. *Calls upon* the Government to implement the recommendations of the Commission for Historical Clarification, with a view to promoting national reconciliation, upholding the right to truth and providing redress for the victims of human rights abuses and violence committed during the thirty-six-year conflict, and calls upon the Guatemalan Congress to establish, as recommended, the Commission for Peace and Harmony;

18. *Welcomes* in this regard the recent agreement reached between the Government and civil society to establish a National Reparations Commission, and calls upon the Congress to adopt the draft law on the National Reparations Programme;

19. *Invites* the international community and, in particular, the agencies, programmes and funds of the United Nations, to continue to support the consolidation of the peace-building process, with the peace agreements as the framework for their technical and financial assistance programmes and projects, and stresses the continued importance of close cooperation among them in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework for Guatemala;

20. *Urges* the international community to support financially, through existing mechanisms of international cooperation, the strengthening of national capacities to ensure the consolidation of the peace process in Guatemala;

21. *Also urges* the international community to support financially the strengthening of the capacities of the United Nations agencies and programmes, as the Mission will transfer some of its activities and projects to those agencies to support the national efforts to comply with the commitments of the peace agreements;

22. *Stresses* that the Mission has a key role to play in promoting the consolidation of peace and the observance of human rights and in verifying compliance with the revised timetable for the implementation of pending commitments under the peace agreements;

23. *Takes note* of the request of the Government of Guatemala for an extension of the mandate of the Mission until the end of 2004, taking into account the fact that the new Administration is scheduled to take office in January 2004;

24. *Notes* that civil society organizations and members of the international community have expressed concerns that voids will be created, particularly in the areas of human rights, indigenous rights, demilitarization and the strengthening of civil society, if the Mission departs Guatemala at the end of 2003, just as the new Government takes office and before it has been able to demonstrate its commitment to the peace process;

25. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with interested Member States regarding these requests and to keep the General Assembly apprised of progress in these talks;

26. *Decides* to authorize the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Guatemala from 1 January to 31 December 2003;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as early as possible, an updated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, together with his recommendations regarding the best way to accompany Guatemala in its peace-building process beyond 31 December 2003;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to keep the General Assembly fully informed of the implementation of the present resolution.

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[301] A/49/882-S/1995/256, annex.

[302] A/50/956, annex.

RESOLUTION 57/162

Adopted at the 76th plenary meeting, on 16 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.58/Rev.1 and Add.1, sponsored by: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Viet Nam, Zambia

57/162. International Year of Rice, 2004

The General Assembly,

Recalling resolution 2/2001 of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,[303]

Noting that rice is the staple food of more than half of the world's population,

Affirming the need to heighten awareness of the role of rice in alleviating poverty and malnutrition,

Reaffirming the need to focus world attention on the role that rice can play in providing food security and eradicating poverty in the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[304]

1. *Decides* to declare the year 2004 the International Year of Rice;

2. *Invites* the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to facilitate the implementation of the International Year of Rice, in collaboration with Governments, the United Nations Development Programme, Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research centres and other relevant organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations.

RESOLUTION 57/294

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.70 and Add.1, sponsored by: Central African Republic, Denmark, Ethiopia, France, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Japan, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/294. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/135 of 19 December 1994, 50/128 of 20 December 1995 and 55/284 of 7 September 2001 concerning the struggle against malaria in the developing countries, particularly in Africa,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council relating to the struggle against malaria and diarrhoeal diseases, in particular resolution 1998/36 of 30 July 1998,

Acknowledging that it is important and necessary for countries where malaria is endemic to adopt appropriate strategies to combat malaria, one of the most deadly of all tropical diseases, which annually causes at least one million deaths in Africa, where nine out of every ten cases of malaria occur,

Taking note of the declarations and decisions on health issues adopted by the Organization of African Unity, in particular the declaration and plan of action on the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative adopted at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity, held in Abuja on 24 and 25 April 2000,[305] as well as decision AHG/Dec.155 (XXXVI) concerning the implementation of that declaration and plan of action, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-sixth ordinary session, held in Lomé from 10 to 12 July 2000,[306]

Welcoming the establishment of the African Union in Durban, South Africa, on 9 July 2002, in accordance with the provisions of its Constitutive Act, and the adoption of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[307]

Acknowledging the efforts of the World Health Organization and other partners to fight malaria over the years, including the launching of the Roll Back Malaria Partnership in 1998,

Recognizing that malaria-related ill health and deaths throughout the world can be eliminated with political commitment and commensurate resources if the public is educated and sensitized about malaria and appropriate health services are made available, particularly in countries where the disease is endemic,

Emphasizing that the international community has an essential role to play in strengthening the support and assistance provided to developing countries, particularly African countries, in their efforts to reduce the burden of malaria and mitigate its negative effects,

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[303] See *Report of the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Thirty-first Session, Rome, 2–13 November 2001* (C 2001/REP).

[304] See resolution 55/2.

[305] See A/55/240/Add.1.

[306] See A/55/286, annex II.

[307] A/57/304, annex.

Recognizing the importance of the development of effective vaccines and new medicines to prevent and treat malaria and the need for further research, including through effective global partnerships such as the various malaria vaccine initiatives and the Medicines for Malaria Venture, in securing their development,

Emphasizing the importance of implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[308] and welcoming, in this connection, the commitment of Member States to respond to the specific needs of Africa,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[309] and calls for support for the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms* the period 2001–2010 as the Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa;

3. *Welcomes* the high priority given to the fight against malaria in the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[307]

4. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the continuing efforts of developing countries, particularly those in Africa, to combat malaria through the formulation and implementation of plans and strategies at the national, regional and continental levels, despite their limited financial, technical and human resources;

5. *Takes note* of the real progress towards the implementation of those plans, most notably the increasing availability of insecticide-treated bednets, the growing use of preventive treatment of pregnant women and prompt access to treatment with effective drugs, that is being made in many countries in which malaria is endemic, particularly in Africa;

6. *Stresses* that the proclamation of the Decade will stimulate the efforts of African countries and the international community not only to roll back malaria worldwide, in particular in Africa where the burden is heaviest, but also to prevent its spread to previously malaria-free areas;

7. *Appeals* to the international community, United Nations bodies, international and regional organizations and non-governmental organizations to allocate substantial new resources, including through the Global Fund to Fight the Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome, Tuberculosis and Malaria, for developing countries, particularly in Africa, with a view to enabling them to implement fully the plan of action adopted in Abuja for the "Roll Back Malaria" initiative;[305]

8. *Calls upon* the international community and donor Governments to encourage and facilitate the transfer of needed technology to developing countries, particularly in Africa, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, for the production of long-lasting insecticide-treated nets, to avoid the difficulties encountered with re-treatment, and to find ways to increase the availability of the new range of artemisinin-based combination drugs for multi-drug-resistant malaria;

9. *Commends* the World Health Organization and its partners, and urges them to provide the necessary support for its ongoing measures to combat malaria in developing countries, particularly in Africa, and to provide the assistance necessary for African States to meet their objectives;

10. *Calls* for joint comprehensive efforts between Africa and the international community to ensure that by 2005 the following targets are achieved:

(*a*) At least 60 per cent of those at risk for malaria, in particular pregnant women and children under five years of age, benefit from the most suitable combination of personal and community protective measures, such as insecticide-treated bednets and other interventions that are accessible and affordable, to prevent infection and suffering;

(*b*) At least 60 per cent of all pregnant women who are at risk for malaria, especially those in their first pregnancy, have access to chemoprophylaxis or presumptive intermittent treatment;

(*c*) At least 60 per cent of those suffering from malaria have prompt access to and are able to use correct, affordable and appropriate treatment within twenty-four hours of the onset of symptoms;

11. *Reiterates* the need to ensure that measures to reduce the risk of malaria transmission, including source reduction and environmental management, such as ways to minimize mosquito breeding sites associated with existing and new development projects, are included in development planning and activities;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, acting in close collaboration with the Director-General of the World Health Organization, developing countries and regional organizations, including the African Union, to conduct in 2005 an evaluation of the measures taken and progress made towards the achievement of the mid-term targets, the means of implementation provided by the international community in this regard and the overall goals of the Decade, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[308] See resolution 55/2.

[309] A/57/123.

RESOLUTION 57/295

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.71 and Add.1, sponsored by: Chile, China, Cuba, Guatemala, India, Lesotho, Nigeria, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Romania, Senegal, South Africa, Suriname, Zambia

57/295. Information and communication technologies for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the heads of State and Government at the Millennium Summit of the United Nations on 8 September 2000,[310] in which Member States resolved to ensure that the benefits of new technologies, especially information and communication technologies, in conformity with the recommendations contained in the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2000 of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 7 July 2000,[311] are available to all,

Recalling also that the ministerial declaration called for a coherent, system-wide information and communication technologies strategy that would ensure coordination and synergy among programmes and activities of individual organizations of the system and transform it into a knowledge-based system of organizations,

Bearing in mind its resolution 57/238 of 20 December 2002 on the World Summit on the Information Society, in which it encouraged all relevant United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional institutions, to further their cooperation in and support to the preparatory process of the Summit,

Noting that information and communication technologies for development have been recognized as an important element in the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits,

1. *Affirms* the need to use information and communication technologies as a strategic tool to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness and impact of the development programmes and technical cooperation activities of the United Nations system;

2. *Emphasizes* the need for coordination and synergy between programmes and activities of the United Nations system and the crucial role that information and communication technologies can play in facilitating such coordination;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to work closely with organizations of the United Nations system and with the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force to develop a comprehensive information and communication technologies strategy for the United Nations system, taking into account the following elements:

(*a*) Encouraging the system-wide application and use of information and communication technologies to strengthen the United Nations capacity to create, share and disseminate knowledge and to help to make the United Nations more efficient and effective in the delivery of services to Member States;

(*b*) Mainstreaming and integrating information and communication technologies more fully into development and technical cooperation activities of the organizations of the system;

(*c*) Building collaborative networks and communities of practice among organizations of the system;

(*d*) Developing, where appropriate, common platforms for services such as databases, documentation and meetings;

(*e*) Encouraging the use of information and communication technologies to promote the exchange of experiences and to enhance information-sharing among the organizations of the system and between the organizations and Member States;

(*f*) Developing comprehensive system-wide training programmes aimed at building the capacities of the system to take full advantage of information and communication technologies;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Information and communication technologies for development".

RESOLUTION 57/296

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.69 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Canada, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Romania, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/296. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Having considered the progress report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa",[312]

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[310] See resolution 55/2.

[311] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/55/3/Rev.1), chap. III, para. 17.

Recalling its resolutions 53/92 of 7 December 1998, 54/234 of 22 December 1999, 55/217 of 21 December 2000 and 56/37 of 4 December 2001 on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,

Recalling also section VII of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[313] which highlights the special needs of Africa,

Recalling further the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002[314] and its resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s[315] and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[316]

Reaffirming that the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa[317] must remain a high priority on the agenda of the United Nations system and Member States,

Underscoring the need to strengthen further the political will to ensure the required political, financial and technical support critical for the effective implementation of the recommendations in all the areas included in the report of the Secretary-General,

Welcoming the commitment of African countries, as reaffirmed in the New Partnership for Africa's Development, to promote peace, democracy, good governance, human rights and sound economic management in their respective countries,

Welcoming also the establishment of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa of the Security Council and of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict, within the framework of the Economic and Social Council,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the progress report of the Secretary-General entitled "Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa";[312]

2. *Notes with concern* that notwithstanding some progress made towards restoring peace and stability in the African region, the challenges of conflict prevention and post-conflict development remain daunting, and the progress in effectively implementing the recommendations in the peacemaking, economic, social and other areas as contained in the report of the Secretary-General[317] remains slow and uneven;

3. *Urges* Member States, as well as the international community, to strengthen their efforts towards effectively implementing the recommendations in all the areas mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Decides* to include a sub-item entitled "Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa" under a single agenda item on the development of Africa, entitled "New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support", beginning at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue monitoring progress in the effective and timely implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa and to submit a comprehensive report on the sub-item to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/297

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.68 and Add.1, sponsored by: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Ethiopia, Gabon, Greece, Italy, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Senegal, South Africa, Suriname

57/297. Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 44/237 of 22 December 1989, in which it proclaimed the period 1991–2000 the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa, as adjusted subsequently by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/177 of 22 December 1992 to cover the period 1993–2002,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/203 of 22 December 1999 and 56/187 of 21 December 2001 on the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa,

Recalling further the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002[318] and resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the

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[312] A/57/172.

[313] See resolution 55/2.

[314] See resolution 57/2.

[315] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[316] A/57/304, annex.

[317] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[318] See resolution 57/2.

Development of Africa in the 1990s[319] and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,[320]

Recognizing that industrial growth is essential for sustained economic development in that it generates income and employment, thus improving standards of living and eradicating poverty, a key goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[321]

Bearing in mind that Africa faces serious obstacles in the diversification of its economy, in particular, in industrialization,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa;[322]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of industrialization to the sustained growth and accelerated development of Africa;

3. *Expresses disappointment* that, despite the first Industrial Development Decade for Africa in the 1980s and the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1993–2002), limited progress has been made in the industrialization of Africa;

4. *Decides* to bring the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa to a close, and calls upon the international community, including the United Nations system, to channel its support for Africa's industrialization effort within the framework of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[320]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include the topic of industrialization in Africa in his consolidated annual report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development.

RESOLUTION 57/298

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, by a recorded vote of 147 to none, with 3 abstentions,* on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.72 and Add.1, sponsored by: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia, and the amendment in document A/57/L.73, submitted by Azerbaijan

* *In favour:* Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Armenia, Belarus, Madagascar

57/298. Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the framework for cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, which was signed on 26 May 1993,[323] as well as its resolutions on cooperation between the two organizations,

Recalling also the principles embodied in the Helsinki Final Act and in the declaration at the 1992 Helsinki Summit by the heads of State or Government of the participating States of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of their understanding that the Conference is a regional arrangement in the sense of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and as such provides an important link between European and global security,[324]

Acknowledging the increasing contribution of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security in its region through activities in early warning and preventive diplomacy, including through the activities of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as arms control and disarmament,

Recalling the Charter for European Security adopted at the Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, in November 1999, which reaffirms the Organization for Security and Cooperation in

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[319] Resolution 46/151, annex.

[320] A/57/304, annex.

[321] See resolution 55/2.

[322] A/57/175.

[323] A/48/185, annex II, appendix.

[324] See A/47/361-S/24370, annex.

Europe as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region and as a key instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

Recalling also the special ties between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation, as well as between that organization and the Asian Partners for Cooperation, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand, which have been enhanced further in 2002,

Underlining the continued importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[325]

2. *Commends* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for the relevant decisions and declarations adopted by the Tenth Ministerial Council at its meeting in Porto, Portugal, on 6 and 7 December 2002, in particular its Charter on Preventing and Combating Terrorism, which reaffirms the core lasting and timeless principles guiding the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this field, the decision on implementing the organization's commitments and activities on combating terrorism, the Porto Ministerial Declaration, entitled "Responding to Change", which underlines the role of the organization in the evolving international security environment, its decision on the development of a strategy to address threats to security and stability in the twenty-first century, the decision on an annual security review conference, the Declaration on Trafficking in Human Beings, the decision on tolerance and non-discrimination, the decision on electoral standards, the decision on enhancing the role of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in economic and environmental dimensions, the decision on reviewing the role of the organization in the field of peacekeeping operations and the statements by the Ministerial Council on regional issues;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the further improvement of cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and its agencies and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including at the level of activities in the field;

4. *Welcomes*, in that context, the meetings of the Secretary-General of the United Nations with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, of the President of the United Nations Security Council with the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the participation of high-level United Nations representatives in meetings of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

5. *Praises* the close cooperation between the institutions of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in particular the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the relevant United Nations bodies, welcomes in this regard the active participation of high-level representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office on Drugs and Crime[326] of the Secretariat in its annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, which paved the way for the documents adopted at the Tenth Ministerial Council in that field, and also welcomes the contribution of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe and the United Nations Environment Programme to the 2002 Economic Forum of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

6. *Encourages* further efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to foster security and stability in its region through early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, as well as through continued promotion of democracy, the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms and arms control and confidence- and security-building measures;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken to promote in operational terms the concept of the Platform for Cooperative Security, adopted at the Summit in Istanbul in 1999, and encourages the continued development of modalities of cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and other international and regional organizations and institutions;

8. *Commends* the work of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe on the implementation of its Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism[327] and of the Programme of Action adopted at the Bishkek International Conference on enhancing security and stability in Central Asia, held on 13 and 14 December 2001, whereby participating States pledged to reinforce and develop bilateral and multilateral cooperation among themselves, with the United Nations and with other international and regional organizations in order to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, welcomes the reports presented by the Secretary-General of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the Tenth Ministerial Council and to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations on the activities of that organization to prevent and combat terrorism, encourages further enhancement of their cooperation in providing assistance

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[325] A/57/217.

[326] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[327] See Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe document MC(9).DEC/1, annex.

to participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementing their international obligations in this field, and welcomes in that respect the convening, at the initiative of the Portuguese Chairmanship, of the High-Level Conference on Preventing and Combating Terrorism, held in Lisbon on 12 June 2002, which, in full recognition of the leading role of the United Nations in countering terrorism, sought to enhance cooperation among the various organizations involved;

9. *Notes* the continued process of reviewing the management and the working procedures of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe undertaken at the initiative of the Romanian chairmanship in 2001 and continued under the Portuguese chairmanship in 2002 with the goal of strengthening its efficiency on issues of security and cooperation in Europe and in countering threats and challenges to security and stability in its region;

10. *Acknowledges* the progress made in implementing the decisions to strengthen the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as a political forum, namely through a balanced approach in its three dimensions, and takes note in this respect of enhanced cooperation in the economic and environmental dimensions, welcoming in particular the recommendations of the 2002 Economic Forum on cooperation for the sustainable use and the protection of the quality of water and the recommendations of the seminar held in Paris on the socio-economic impact of disarmament;

11. *Commends* the adoption of new modalities for the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and welcomes the continued close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Offices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as the Office on Drugs and Crime;

12. *Praises* the work done by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to develop its capacity to assist participating States wishing to strengthen their policing skills;

13. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to broaden dialogue with partners outside its area, such as the Mediterranean Partners for Cooperation and Asian Partners for Cooperation, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia, the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the League of Arab States, the African Union and those States bordering on the area of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and to exchange best practices and lessons learned in counter-terrorism efforts for application in its area;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the active involvement of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and its commitment to continue to contribute substantially to early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation in the region, thereby fostering peace and stability in the area;

15. *Commends* the work of the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and of the authorities of that country to promote legislative reform and institution- and capacity-building, and notes with satisfaction their commitment to facilitate the consolidation of democracy, the strengthening of the rule of law, through in particular the training of a multi-ethnic police element in South Serbia, including respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the process of the return of refugees and internally displaced persons in the region;

16. *Expresses its appreciation* for the contribution by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to implementing Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999, as an essential part of the United Nations Interim Administration in Kosovo, in particular for its substantial role in the preparation and organization of the Kosovo local election of 26 October 2002, in view of the consolidation of stability and prosperity in Kosovo on the basis of substantial autonomy, respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, pending a final settlement in accordance with resolution 1244 (1999), as well as for its continued commitment to training a multi-ethnic, community-based Kosovo police service, building democratic institutions and promoting human rights;

17. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to contribute to the implementation of the Framework Agreement concerning the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, concluded on 13 August 2001, in particular through its programmes of training and reform of the police forces, confidence-building and inter-ethnic relations, and commends the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe for its contribution to the holding of peaceful and democratic elections on 15 September 2002;

18. *Commends* the work of the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to Bosnia and Herzegovina in accomplishing the transition in the administration and conduct of the election process to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in compliance with the Dayton/Paris peace accords,[328] and for the support given to

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[328] General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the annexes thereto, initialled in Dayton, United States of America, on 21 November 1995 and signed in Paris on 14 December 1995 (A/50/790-S/1995/999).

Bosnia and Herzegovina in the preparation and conduct of general elections on 5 October 2002, which were held largely in line with international standards for democratic elections, as well as for its continued substantive support to the Property Law Implementation Plan process, which is due to be completed by 2003;

19. *Underlines* the importance of regional cooperation as a means of fostering good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, welcomes the implementation of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe as an important long-term and comprehensive initiative to promote good-neighbourly relations, stability and economic development, and welcomes the commitment of participating States of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to contribute further to the goals of the Stability Pact;

20. *Expresses its deep concern* that in spite of the efforts undertaken by the Republic of Moldova and the mediators of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Russian Federation and Ukraine, no progress was achieved in 2002 towards negotiation of a comprehensive political settlement of the Transdniestrian problem, based on full respect of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, regrets that, notwithstanding all these efforts, the Transdniestrian side continues to obstruct the negotiation process, welcomes the efforts made by the Russian Federation to fulfil its commitments undertaken at the summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe held in Istanbul in 1999, and also welcomes the commitment of the Russian Federation to complete the withdrawal of Russian forces as early as possible and its intention to do so by 31 December 2003, provided necessary conditions are in place;

21. *Supports* the efforts of the Portuguese chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Government of Belarus to find a mutually acceptable decision regarding the field presence in Belarus of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

22. *Welcomes* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to promote the peace process in the Tshkhinvali region/South Ossetia, Georgia, namely the results achieved in the meeting at Castelo Branco, Portugal, and the steps to reduce the quantities of small arms and light weapons in that region, as well as the work of the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to Georgia in facilitating a number of projects aimed at involving the local community in that process, and, in accordance with the commitments made at the Istanbul summit, supports the desire of the parties to complete negotiations regarding the duration and modalities of the functioning of the Russian military bases at Batumi and Alkhalkalaki and other Russian military facilities within the territory of Georgia, and takes note of the transparent visit of the military experts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to the Gudauta base in Abkhazia, Georgia, which was a milestone on the way to a speedy and legal transfer of the Gudauta facilities;

23. *Appreciates* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in bringing forward a peaceful solution of the conflict in Abkhazia, in particular the active participation of the representative of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the negotiations led by the United Nations, but regrets that no substantial progress has been noted in overcoming the precarious stalemate that remains on the core issue of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, the future status of Abkhazia within the State of Georgia, and welcomes the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to further its projects in Abkhazia in the human dimension;

24. *Commends* the work of the border monitoring operation of the Mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to Georgia along the border between Georgia and the Chechen and Ingushet Republics of the Russian Federation as a significant contribution to stability and confidence in the region;

25. *Notes with satisfaction* the increased efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to promote cooperation with the five participating States of Central Asia, as well as regional cooperation among these States, in all dimensions of security, in particular in the fight against terrorism, as well as in the sphere of economic and environmental issues, encourages continued close cooperation between the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the United Nations and other international actors in this region, and welcomes the efforts of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to promote implementation of the Programme of Action adopted at the Bishkek International Conference on enhancing security and stability in Central Asia, held under the auspices of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat, including the holding of a regional expert meeting on combating trafficking in small arms and light weapons in Central Asia, as well as the readiness of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to assist in addressing specific issues related to the process of democratic reform, institution building and the reform of the law enforcement agencies in the five participating States in Central Asia;

26. *Fully supports* the activities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to achieve a peaceful solution to the conflict in and around the Nagorny-Karabakh region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and welcomes cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in this regard;

27. *Remains deeply concerned* at the failure to achieve a settlement of the Nagorny-Karabakh conflict despite the intensified dialogue between the parties and the active support

of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, reaffirms that the prompt resolution of that protracted conflict will contribute to lasting peace, security, stability and cooperation in the South Caucasus region, reiterates the importance of continuing the peace dialogue, calls upon the sides to continue their efforts to achieve an early resolution of the conflict based on norms and principles of international law, encourages the parties to explore further measures that would enhance mutual confidence and trust, welcomes the commitment of the parties to the ceasefire and to achieving a peaceful and comprehensive settlement, also welcomes in particular the continued meetings of the Presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan and of their special representatives, and encourages the parties to continue their efforts, with the active support of the Co-Chairmen, aimed at reaching a just and enduring settlement;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the sub-item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe", and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/299

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.67, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

57/299. Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and the fulfilment of the targets set therein are integrally linked to the attainment of the development goals set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[329]

Recalling its resolution S-26/2 of 27 June 2001, entitled "Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS", in which it decided to devote sufficient time and at least one full day of the annual session of the General Assembly to review and debate a report of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing that 2003 represents the first year that the time-bound commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment are due to be met, and that the other targets are to be met by 2005 and 2010,

Taking into account the critical role of civil society at all levels in the response to HIV/AIDS, in particular people living with HIV/AIDS,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS,[330] including the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Decides* to convene a day of high-level plenary meetings devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of its twenty-sixth special session and the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment, to be held immediately following the general debate at its fifty-eighth session on a date to be decided by the General Assembly during its fifty-seventh session;

3. *Decides also* that statements in the debate in the plenary meetings should not exceed five minutes each;

4. *Decides further* that an informal interactive panel discussion will be held in parallel with the afternoon plenary meeting and that it will have as its theme "Implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS: from policy to practice - progress achieved, lessons learned and best practices"; the Chairman of the informal panel will orally present a summary of the discussions in the informal panel to the General Assembly at the end of the debate in plenary meeting;

5. *Decides* that, in addition to Member States, observers, representatives of the entities of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council and non-governmental members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, an invitation to the informal interactive panel discussion will be extended to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and not more than fifteen civil society representatives of international, national or community organizations, including those representing and working for people living with HIV/AIDS, and the private sector, including pharmaceutical companies, and requests the President of the General Assembly, following appropriate consultations with Member States, to draw up the list of those civil society representatives, on the basis of the recommendations of the Joint Programme and taking into account the principle of geographical representation, and to submit the list to Member States for consideration on a no-objection basis for a final decision by the Assembly on participation;

6. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly to finalize any outstanding organizational matters in consultation with the Member States;

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[329] See resolution 55/2.

[330] A/57/227 and Corr.1.

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive and analytical report on progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the Declaration of Commitment, with a view to identifying problems and constraints and making recommendations on action needed to make further progress, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, and in this context underlines the importance of the continuing refinement of the core indicators developed by the Joint Programme and approved by its Programme Coordinating Board;

8. *Decides* that the arrangements outlined in paragraph 5 above shall in no way create a precedent for other similar events;

9. *Decides also* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS".

RESOLUTION 57/300

Adopted at the 79th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the basis of draft resolution A/57/L.74, submitted by the President of the General Assembly

57/300. Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its determination to strengthen further the role, capacity, effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations and thus improve its performance in order to realize the full potential of the Organization, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and to respond more effectively to the needs of Member States and existing and new global challenges facing the United Nations in the twenty-first century,

Recalling all the previous reform efforts, including those based on the report of the Secretary-General[331] and its resolutions 52/12 A of 12 November 1997 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997, entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform",

Recalling also Article 97 of the Charter, the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations,

Recalling further the respective mandates of various treaty bodies,

Having in mind the necessity to pursue the process of revitalization of the General Assembly, reform of the Security Council, restructuring of the Economic and Social Council and modernization of the Secretariat,

Recalling the determination of Member States to make the United Nations a more effective instrument for pursuing all the priorities set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[332]

Bearing in mind that notable political, economic and social developments, particularly in Africa, call for continued strong and focused cooperation between the United Nations system and the Member States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change",[333] the statement by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly of 30 October 2002[334] and the conference room papers prepared by the Secretariat,[335] as well as the views expressed by Member States,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts and initiatives of the Secretary-General aimed at further reforming the United Nations to cope with contemporary challenges and address new priorities facing the Organization in the twenty-first century;

2. *Stresses* that the strengthening of the United Nations encompasses the revitalization, reform and restructuring of the principal organs of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, while implementing the provisions of the present resolution, to continue to take into account the views and comments expressed by Member States and to respect fully the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant decisions and resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to submit a shorter proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 that fully justifies the resource requirements and better reflects the priorities of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[336] the United Nations Millennium Declaration[332] and the outcomes of the major international conferences, taking into account the full scope of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[337] while emphasizing that reform should not be seen as a budget-cutting exercise;

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[331] A/51/950 and Add.1–7.

[332] See resolution 55/2.

[333] A/57/387 and Corr.1

[334] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Plenary Meetings*, 38th meeting (A/57/PV.38), and corrigendum.

[335] A/57/CRP.1 and Corr.1, A/57/CRP.2 and A/57/CRP.3.

[336] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

[337] ST/SGB/2000/8.

5. *Emphasizes* the need to further strengthen the efforts of the United Nations in implementing the development goals through enhanced mechanisms, adequate resources and effective follow-up activities;

6. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General to develop and present plans for strengthening inter-agency coordination in respect of human rights technical assistance, which are carried out at the country level, at the request of interested countries;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the country-driven approach in the operational activities of the United Nations funds and programmes, bearing in mind their existing mandates;

8. *Encourages* States parties to the human rights treaties and the respective treaty bodies to review the reporting procedures of treaty bodies with a view to developing a more coordinated approach and to streamlining the reporting requirements under these treaties, and requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to support this exercise, including through submission of recommendations, as appropriate;

9. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights and the relevant intergovernmental bodies to review the human rights special procedures in order to rationalize their work and enhance their effectiveness, consistent with their mandates, and also requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to support this exercise, including through submission of recommendations, as appropriate, and by providing adequate administrative support to each of these special procedures;

10. *Encourages* the efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the effectiveness and management of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions and taking into account, as appropriate, the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;[338]

11. *Welcomes* the proposals of the Secretary-General to improve the effective and targeted delivery of public information activities, including the restructuring of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

12. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee on Information in guiding the process of restructuring the Department of Public Information, and therefore invites the Committee on Information to engage actively in the process;

13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts to enhance the use of information technology within the Department of Public Information, bearing in mind the constraints experienced by developing countries in terms of access to information;

14. *Takes note* of the proposals of the Secretary-General contained in action 9 of his report,[333] which are intended to improve the management of the libraries, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report for further consideration by the relevant United Nations bodies, including the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session, with a view to taking a decision on the proposals of the Secretary-General in this regard at its fifty-eighth session;

15. *Also takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General contained in action 8 of his report,[333] to rationalize the network of United Nations information centres around regional hubs, where appropriate, in consultation with concerned Member States, starting with the creation of a Western European hub, followed by a similar approach in other high-cost developed countries, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of the proposal with the objective of applying this initiative in other regions, in consultation with Member States, where this initiative will strengthen the flow and exchange of information in developing countries;

16. *Notes* the proposal of the Secretary-General to transfer the functions and resources of the Cartographic Section from the Department of Public Information to the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, while maintaining the service currently provided to users outside the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, and decides to consider the proposal in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

17. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to conduct a systematic evaluation of the impact, efficiency and cost-effectiveness of all activities of the Department of Public Information, and requests the Secretary-General, with assistance from the Office of Internal Oversight Services, to proceed as quickly as possible in this regard and to report on progress made to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, through the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session;

18. *Notes* the proposal to improve the electronic access to United Nations collections, publications and parliamentary documents, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the internal capacity for the provision of hard copies at the request of Member States, subject to the relevant provisions of its resolution 56/242 of 24 December 2001;

19. *Welcomes* the proposals of the Secretary-General to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the conference-servicing function of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to consult Member States, including relevant groups, on how best to accomplish this goal with due attention to their needs, and in this regard emphasizes

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[338] See A/57/488.

the need for Member States to take well-informed decisions, and decides that the measures pertinent to it will be decided upon in the context of its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on improving the performance of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services;[339]

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to start, on a trial basis, a consultative process with the President of the General Assembly and the Chairmen of the Main Committees of the Assembly at the end of the main part of each session of the Assembly, with a view to consolidating reports on related subjects, if decided by the Main Committees;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit proposals on recurring reporting requirements to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session for consideration and decision;

22. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to develop an implementation plan to strengthen the effectiveness of the United Nations presence for developmental and humanitarian activities in developing countries by September 2003, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report for the consideration of the General Assembly through the relevant intergovernmental bodies;

23. *Also welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to issue a document clarifying the roles and responsibilities of the various United Nations entities in the area of technical cooperation by September 2003 and to submit a report thereon to the relevant intergovernmental bodies for their consideration;

24. *Further welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the management capacities of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, inter alia, by establishing a policy planning unit, and notes in this regard his intention to submit, in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, proposals for a new position of Assistant Secretary-General for its consideration;

25. *Endorses* the decision of the Secretary-General to entrust the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, who will report directly to him, with the responsibilities of:

(*a*) Coordinating and guiding the preparation of Africa-related reports and inputs, in particular support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development[340] by the United Nations system and the international community, and the coordination of global advocacy in support of the New Partnership;

(*b*) Coordinating the interdepartmental task force on African affairs to ensure coherence and an integrated approach for United Nations support to Africa, including following up the implementation of all summit and conference outcomes related to Africa and addressing gaps and initiating reports on critical issues affecting Africa;

26. *Approves* the transfer of resources allocated to the Office of the Special Coordinator for Africa and the Least Developed Countries and those from the current Office of the Adviser for Special Assignments in Africa, to the new Office of the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the new Office is reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 with the allocation of adequate resources for its expanded mandate;

27. *Concurs* with the intention of the Secretary-General to establish a panel of eminent persons, reflecting a diversity of views, to review the relationship between the United Nations and civil society, stresses that the terms of reference of such a panel should underscore the intergovernmental character of the United Nations, and decides to consider the recommendations of the panel through the respective intergovernmental process;

28. *Decides* that the creation of a partnership office as part of the effort to enhance cooperation in the work of the Organization with the private sector, taking into account the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits, should be subject to its resolutions 55/215 of 21 December 2000 and 56/76 of 11 December 2001;

29. *Recognizes* the need to continue to improve and streamline the planning, programming and budgetary cycle of the Organization;

30. *Notes* the reference to sunset provisions in the report of the Secretary-General,[341] and recalls that no decision has been taken in this regard;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement regulation 5.6 and rule 105.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation;

32. *Takes note* of the proposal of the Secretary-General, contained in action 21 of his report,[333] for a shorter, more strategic medium-term plan that is linked to the budget outline, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a more detailed proposal to the General Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for consideration at its fifty-eighth session;

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[339] A/57/289.

[340] A/57/304, annex.

[341] A/57/387 and Corr.1, para. 44.

33. *Reaffirms* the roles of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in the intergovernmental consideration of the planning, programming and budgeting process;

34. *Invites* the Committee for Programme and Coordination to continue to improve its working methods;

35. *Takes note* of the request of the Secretary-General for a degree of flexibility to reallocate resources between programmes and between allocations for personnel and other allocations within a single budget period and in exceptional circumstances, notes the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to develop criteria for the use of any such authorization, proposed modalities for reporting the duration and programmatic impacts of reallocations, including specification of the exceptional circumstances in which it would be used, and to report thereon to the Assembly, through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for its consideration at its fifty-eighth session;

36. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the system of evaluation and monitoring that underlines the importance of assessing programme impacts;

37. *Notes* the proposal of the Secretary-General for a single-stage intergovernmental review of the programme budget and medium-term plan, contained in action 22 of his report,[333] and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report clarifying his proposal for consideration by the General Assembly at its resumed fifty-seventh session;

38. *Shares* the vision of the Secretary-General to foster excellence among United Nations staff, inter alia, by rejuvenation, while ensuring the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity, as well as equitable geographical representation and gender balance;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, as soon as possible, but not later than at the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly, for consideration in the context of human resources management, a study on ways to promote General Service staff to Professional posts, analysing the effects on non-represented and underrepresented countries, while ensuring the implementation of equitable geographic representation and aligning the procedures and qualifications of the General Service to Professional category examinations to those of the national competitive recruitment examinations;

40. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General, as set out in action 32 of his report,[333] to continue to improve management, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to improve accountability and responsibility as well as monitoring and control mechanisms and procedures;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a progress report on the implementation of the reform measures as considered in the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

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RESOLUTION 57/50

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/502, para. 7)[1]

57/50. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/37 of 10 December 1996 and 54/44 of 1 December 1999 relating to the prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons,

Recalling further paragraph 77 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2]

Determined to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction that have characteristics comparable in destructive effect to those of weapons of mass destruction identified in the definition of weapons of mass destruction adopted by the United Nations in 1948,[3]

Noting the desirability of keeping the matter under review, as appropriate,

1. *Reaffirms* that effective measures should be taken to prevent the emergence of new types of weapons of mass destruction;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament, without prejudice to further overview of its agenda, to keep the matter under review, as appropriate, with a view to making, when necessary, recommendations on undertaking specific negotiations on identified types of such weapons;

3. *Calls upon* all States, immediately following any recommendations of the Conference on Disarmament, to give favourable consideration to those recommendations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Conference on Disarmament all documents relating to the consideration of this item by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

5. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report the results of any consideration of the matter in its annual reports to the General Assembly;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/51

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/503, para. 7)[4]

57/51. Question of Antarctica

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/45 of 1 December 1999, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit a report consisting of the information provided by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties on their consultative meetings and on their activities in Antarctica, and on developments in relation to Antarctica,

Taking into account the debates on the question of Antarctica held since its thirty-eighth session,

Conscious of the particular significance of Antarctica to the international community, including for international peace and security, the global and regional environment, its effects on global and regional climate conditions, and scientific research,

Reaffirming that the management and use of Antarctica should be conducted in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and of promoting international cooperation for the benefit of mankind as a whole,

Recognizing that the Antarctic Treaty,[5] which provides, inter alia, for the demilitarization of the continent, the prohibition of nuclear explosions and the disposal of nuclear wastes, the freedom of scientific research and the free exchange of scientific information, is in furtherance of the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty[6] on 14 January 1998, under which Antarctica has been designated as a natural reserve, devoted to peace and science, and the provisions contained in the Protocol regarding the protection of the Antarctic environment and dependent and associated ecosystems, including the need for environmental impact assessment in the planning and conduct of all relevant activities in Antarctica,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Armenia, Belarus, Georgia, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation and Ukraine.

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

[3] The definition was adopted by the Commission for Conventional Armaments (see S/C.3/32/Rev.1).

[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[5] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[6] *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXX, No. 6, p. 1461.

Welcoming the continuing cooperation among countries undertaking scientific research activities in Antarctica, which may help to minimize human impact on the Antarctic environment,

Welcoming also the increasing awareness of and interest in Antarctica shown by the international community, and convinced of the advantages to the whole of mankind of a better knowledge of Antarctica,

Reaffirming its conviction that, in the interest of all mankind, Antarctica should continue for ever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and that it should not become the scene or object of international discord,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the question of Antarctica[7] and the role accorded by the Secretary-General to the United Nations Environment Programme in preparing his report, and also of the Twelfth Special Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, held in The Hague from 11 to 15 September 2000, the Twenty-fourth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 9 to 20 July 2001, and the Twenty-fifth Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting, held in Warsaw from 10 to 20 September 2002;

2. *Recalls* the statement under chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[8] adopted by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, that States carrying out research activities in Antarctica should, as provided for in article III of the Antarctic Treaty, continue:

(*a*) To ensure that data and information resulting from such research are freely available to the international community;

(*b*) To enhance the access of the international scientific community and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system to such data and information, including the encouragement of periodic seminars and symposia;

3. *Welcomes* the invitations to the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to attend Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meetings in order to assist such meetings in their substantive work, and urges the parties to continue to do so for future consultative meetings;

4. *Welcomes also* the practice whereby the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties regularly provide the Secretary-General with information on their consultative meetings and on their activities in Antarctica, and encourages the parties to continue to provide the Secretary-General and interested States with information on developments in relation to Antarctica, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report which shall consist of that information to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Question of Antarctica".

RESOLUTION 57/52

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/504, para. 7)[9]

57/52. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, signed in Helsinki on 1 August 1975,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[10]

Recalling further its resolutions 48/84 B of 16 December 1993, 50/80 B of 12 December 1995, 51/55 of 10 December 1996, 52/48 of 9 December 1997, 53/71 of 4 December 1998, 54/62 of 1 December 1999, 55/27 of 20 November 2000 and 56/18 of 29 November 2001,

Convinced of the necessity of enhancing the overall conflict prevention and resolution capability of the United Nations system and other relevant regional organizations to prevent the outbreak of conflicts,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) of 10 June 1999 on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, and stressing, inter alia, the role and responsibility of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, supported by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union, and of the Kosovo Force in that regard, as well as the importance of the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1345 (2001) of 21 March 2001 and 1371 (2001) of 26 September 2001,

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[7] A/57/346.

[8] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II, chap. 17, para. 17.105.

[9] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

[10] See resolution 55/2.

Reiterating the importance of the South-East European Cooperation Process and its contribution to security, stability and good-neighbourly relations in South-Eastern Europe, and recalling in particular the Joint Statement issued by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the South-East European Cooperation Process in Belgrade on 19 June 2002,[11]

Welcoming the progress made in the normalization of relations among all States of the Balkan region,

Reaffirming the validity of the Agreement for the delineation of the borderline between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, signed in Skopje on 23 February 2001,[12]

Welcoming the signing of stabilization and association agreements and/or European agreements between the countries of the region and the European Union and its member States,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of strengthening regional efforts in South-Eastern Europe on arms control, demining, disarmament and confidence-building measures, and concerned that, in spite of the ongoing efforts, the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects persists,

Welcoming the establishment by the United Nations Development Programme and the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe of the small arms clearing house in Belgrade, and affirming its support for all initiatives in the region for combating the destabilizing accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons,

Mindful of the importance of national and international activities of all relevant organizations aimed at the creation of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and the observance of human rights and good-neighbourliness in South-Eastern Europe,

Reaffirming its determination that all nations should live together in peace with one another as good neighbours,

1. *Reaffirms* the need for full observance of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Calls upon* all States, the relevant international organizations and the competent organs of the United Nations to respect the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty of all States and the inviolability of international borders, to continue to take measures in accordance with the Charter and the commitments of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and through further development of regional arrangements, as appropriate, to eliminate threats to international peace and security and to help to prevent conflicts in South-Eastern Europe, which can lead to the violent disintegration of States;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgency of consolidating South-Eastern Europe as a region of peace, security, stability, democracy, cooperation and economic development and for the promotion of good-neighbourliness and the observance of human rights, thus contributing to the maintenance of international peace and security and enhancing the prospects for sustained development and prosperity for all peoples in the region as an integral part of Europe, and recognizes the role of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the European Union in promoting regional disarmament;

4. *Calls upon* all participants in the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe, as well as all concerned international organizations, to continue to support the efforts of the States of South-Eastern Europe towards regional stability and cooperation so as to enable them to pursue sustainable development and integration into European structures;

5. *Calls upon* all States and relevant international organizations to contribute to the full implementation of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) on Kosovo, Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, as well as Council resolutions 1345 (2001) and 1371 (2001);

6. *Recognizes* the efforts made and activities undertaken in Kosovo by the United Nations and the Kosovo Force for the establishment of a multi-ethnic and stable Kosovo, thus contributing to a further improvement of the overall security situation in the region;

7. *Rejects* the use of violence in pursuit of political aims, and stresses that only peaceful political solutions can assure a stable and democratic future for South-Eastern Europe;

8. *Stresses* the importance of good-neighbourliness and the development of friendly relations among States, and calls upon all States to resolve their disputes with other States by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter;

9. *Urges* the strengthening of relations among the States of South-Eastern Europe on the basis of respect for international law and agreements, in accordance with the principles of good-neighbourliness and mutual respect;

10. *Recognizes* the efforts of the international community, and welcomes in particular the assistance already provided by the European Union and the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe as well as other contributors in promoting

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[11] A/57/98-S/2002/705, annex.

[12] A/56/60-S/2001/234, annex.

the long-term process of democratic and economic development of the region;

11. *Stresses* the importance of enhanced regional cooperation for the development of the South-Eastern European States in the priority areas of infrastructure, transport, trade, energy and environment;

12. *Also stresses* that the rapprochement of the South-Eastern European States with the European Union will favourably influence the security, political and economic situation in the region, as well as good-neighbourly relations among the States;

13. *Further stresses* the importance of regional efforts aimed at preventing conflicts that endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, and in this regard notes with satisfaction the role of the Multinational Peace Force for South-Eastern Europe;

14. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuous regional efforts and intensified dialogue in South-Eastern Europe aimed at arms control, disarmament and confidence-building measures as well as strengthening cooperation and undertaking appropriate measures at the national, subregional and regional levels to prevent all acts of terrorism;

15. *Recognizes* the seriousness of the problem of anti-personnel mines in some parts of South-Eastern Europe, welcomes in this context the efforts of the international community in support of mine action, and encourages States to join and support these efforts;

16. *Urges* all States to take effective measures against the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and to help programmes and projects aimed at the collection and safe destruction of surplus stocks of small arms and light weapons, and stresses the importance of closer cooperation among States, inter alia, in crime prevention, combating terrorism, trafficking in human beings, organized crime, drug trafficking and money-laundering;

17. *Calls upon* all States and the relevant international organizations to communicate to the Secretary-General their views on the subject of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe".

RESOLUTION 57/53

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/505, para. 8)[13]

57/53. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000 and 56/19 of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Recalling, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Bearing in mind the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that it made,[14]

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28 and 56/19,

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[13] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation.

[14] See A/51/261, annex.

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,[15]

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening an international meeting of experts in Geneva in August 1999 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as its results,

Considering that the assessments of the Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meeting of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

Confirming the request to the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 4 of its resolution 56/19,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible measures to limit the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such measures could be served through the examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(*a*) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(*b*) Definition of basic notions related to information security, including unauthorized interference with or misuse of information and telecommunications systems and information resources;

(*c*) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 of the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, and to conduct a study on the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 of the present resolution, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts, to be established in 2004, appointed by him on the basis of equitable geographical distribution and with the help of Member States in a position to render such assistance, and to submit a report on the outcome of the study to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

RESOLUTION 57/54

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/506, para. 7),[16] by a recorded vote of 90 to 48, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Fiji, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, South Africa, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

57/54. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that scientific and technological developments can have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needs to be maintained and encouraged,

Concerned that military applications of scientific and technological developments can contribute significantly to the improvement and upgrading of advanced weapons systems and, in particular, weapons of mass destruction,

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[15] A/54/213, A/55/140 and Corr.1 and Add.1, A/56/164 and Add.1 and A/57/166 and Add.1.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Congo, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tuvalu, Viet Nam and Zambia.

Aware of the need to follow closely the scientific and technological developments that may have a negative impact on international security and disarmament, and to channel scientific and technological developments for beneficial purposes,

Cognizant that the international transfers of dual-use as well as high-technology products, services and know-how for peaceful purposes are important for the economic and social development of States,

Also cognizant of the need to regulate such transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications through multilaterally negotiated, universally applicable, non-discriminatory guidelines,

Expressing concern about the growing proliferation of ad hoc and exclusive export control regimes and arrangements for dual-use goods and technologies, which tend to impede the economic and social development of developing countries,

Recalling that in the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[17] it was noted with concern that undue restrictions on exports to developing countries of material, equipment and technology for peaceful purposes persist,

Emphasizing that internationally negotiated guidelines for the transfer of high technology with military applications should take into account the legitimate defence requirements of all States and the requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, while ensuring that access to high-technology products and services and know-how for peaceful purposes is not denied,

1. *Affirms* that scientific and technological progress should be used for the benefit of all mankind to promote the sustainable economic and social development of all States and to safeguard international security, and that international cooperation in the use of science and technology through the transfer and exchange of technological know-how for peaceful purposes should be promoted;

2. *Invites* Member States to undertake additional efforts to apply science and technology for disarmament-related purposes and to make disarmament-related technologies available to interested States;

3. *Urges* Member States to undertake multilateral negotiations with the participation of all interested States in order to establish universally acceptable, non- discriminatory guidelines for international transfers of dual-use goods and technologies and high technology with military applications;

4. *Encourages* United Nations bodies to contribute, within existing mandates, to promoting the application of science and technology for peaceful purposes;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/55

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/507, para. 7)[18]

57/55. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3263 (XXIX) of 9 December 1974, 3474 (XXX) of 11 December 1975, 31/71 of 10 December 1976, 32/82 of 12 December 1977, 33/64 of 14 December 1978, 34/77 of 11 December 1979, 35/147 of 12 December 1980, 36/87 A and B of 9 December 1981, 37/75 of 9 December 1982, 38/64 of 15 December 1983, 39/54 of 12 December 1984, 40/82 of 12 December 1985, 41/48 of 3 December 1986, 42/28 of 30 November 1987, 43/65 of 7 December 1988, 44/108 of 15 December 1989, 45/52 of 4 December 1990, 46/30 of 6 December 1991, 47/48 of 9 December 1992, 48/71 of 16 December 1993, 49/71 of 15 December 1994, 50/66 of 12 December 1995, 51/41 of 10 December 1996, 52/34 of 9 December 1997, 53/74 of 4 December 1998, 54/51 of 1 December 1999, 55/30 of 20 November 2000 and 56/21 of 29 November 2001 on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East,

Recalling also the recommendations for the establishment of such a zone in the Middle East consistent with paragraphs 60 to 63, and in particular paragraph 63 (*d*), of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[19]

Emphasizing the basic provisions of the above-mentioned resolutions, which call upon all parties directly concerned to consider taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East and, pending and during the establishment of such a zone, to declare solemnly that they will refrain, on a reciprocal basis, from producing, acquiring or in any other way possessing nuclear weapons and nuclear explosive devices and from permitting the stationing of nuclear weapons on their territory by any third party, to agree to place their nuclear facilities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards and to declare their support for the establishment of the zone and to deposit such declarations with the Security Council for consideration, as appropriate,

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[17] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[18] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt.

[19] Resolution S-10/2.

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all States to acquire and develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes,

Emphasizing the need for appropriate measures on the question of the prohibition of military attacks on nuclear facilities,

Bearing in mind the consensus reached by the General Assembly since its thirty-fifth session that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East would greatly enhance international peace and security,

Desirous of building on that consensus so that substantial progress can be made towards establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East,

Welcoming all initiatives leading to general and complete disarmament, including in the region of the Middle East, and in particular on the establishment therein of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons,

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Recognizing the importance of credible regional security, including the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Emphasizing the essential role of the United Nations in the establishment of a mutually verifiable nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 56/21,[20]

1. *Urges* all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and, as a means of promoting this objective, invites the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[21]

2. *Calls upon* all countries of the region that have not done so, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards;

3. *Takes note* of resolution GC(46)/RES/16, adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-sixth regular session, concerning the application of Agency safeguards in the Middle East;[22]

4. *Notes* the importance of the ongoing bilateral Middle East peace negotiations and the activities of the multilateral Working Group on Arms Control and Regional Security in promoting mutual confidence and security in the Middle East, including the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone;

5. *Invites* all countries of the region, pending the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East, to declare their support for establishing such a zone, consistent with paragraph 63 (*d*) of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[19] and to deposit those declarations with the Security Council;

6. *Also invites* those countries, pending the establishment of the zone, not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons or permit the stationing on their territories, or territories under their control, of nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices;

7. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States and all other States to render their assistance in the establishment of the zone and at the same time to refrain from any action that runs counter to both the letter and the spirit of the present resolution;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[20]

9. *Invites* all parties to consider the appropriate means that may contribute towards the goal of general and complete disarmament and the establishment of a zone free of weapons of mass destruction in the region of the Middle East;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue consultations with the States of the region and other concerned States, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 46/30 and taking into account the evolving situation in the region, and to seek from those States their views on the measures outlined in chapters III and IV of the study annexed to his report of 10 October 1990[23] or other relevant measures, in order to move towards the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[20] A/57/214 and Add.1 and 2.

[21] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[22] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC(2002)).

[23] A/45/435.

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East".

RESOLUTION 57/56

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/508, para. 7),[24] by a recorded vote of 106 to none, with 55 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

57/56. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need to allay the legitimate concern of the States of the world with regard to ensuring lasting security for their peoples,

Convinced that nuclear weapons pose the greatest threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Welcoming the progress achieved in recent years in both nuclear and conventional disarmament,

Noting that, despite recent progress in the field of nuclear disarmament, further efforts are necessary towards the achievement of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Convinced that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Determined to abide strictly by the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations on the non-use of force or threat of force,

Recognizing that the independence, territorial integrity and sovereignty of non-nuclear-weapon States need to be safeguarded against the use or threat of use of force, including the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering that, until nuclear disarmament is achieved on a universal basis, it is imperative for the international community to develop effective measures and arrangements to ensure the security of non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons from any quarter,

Recognizing that effective measures and arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons can contribute positively to the prevention of the spread of nuclear weapons,

Bearing in mind paragraph 59 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[25] the first special session devoted to disarmament, in which it urged the nuclear-weapon States to pursue efforts to conclude, as appropriate, effective arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and desirous of promoting the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Document,

Recalling the relevant parts of the special report of the Committee on Disarmament[26] submitted to the General Assembly at its twelfth special session,[27] the second special session devoted to disarmament, and of the special report of the Conference on Disarmament submitted to the Assembly at its fifteenth special session,[28] the third special session devoted to disarmament, as well as the report of the Conference on its 1992 session,[29]

Recalling also paragraph 12 of the Declaration of the 1980s as the Second Disarmament Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 35/46 of 3 December 1980, which states, inter alia, that all efforts should be exerted by the Committee on Disarmament urgently to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

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[24] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nauru, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Saudi Arabia, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[25] Resolution S-10/2.

[26] The Committee on Disarmament was redesignated the Conference on Disarmament as from 7 February 1984.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-12/2), sect. III.C.

[28] Ibid., *Fifteenth Special Session, Supplement No. 2* (A/S-15/2), sect. III.F.

[29] Ibid., *Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), sect. III.F.

Noting the in-depth negotiations undertaken in the Conference on Disarmament and its Ad Hoc Committee on Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons,[30] with a view to reaching agreement on this question,

Taking note of the proposals submitted under the item in the Conference on Disarmament, including the drafts of an international convention,

Taking note also of the relevant decision of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[31] as well as the relevant recommendations of the Organization of the Islamic Conference,

Taking note further of the unilateral declarations made by all the nuclear-weapon States on their policies of non-use or non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against the non-nuclear-weapon States,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference on Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elaboration of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, as well as the difficulties pointed out in evolving a common approach acceptable to all,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 984 (1995) of 11 April 1995 and the views expressed on it,

Recalling its relevant resolutions adopted in previous years, in particular resolutions 45/54 of 4 December 1990, 46/32 of 6 December 1991, 47/50 of 9 December 1992, 48/73 of 16 December 1993, 49/73 of 15 December 1994, 50/68 of 12 December 1995, 51/43 of 10 December 1996, 52/36 of 9 December 1997, 53/75 of 4 December 1998, 54/52 of 1 December 1999, 55/31 of 20 November 2000 and 56/22 of 29 November 2001,

1. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to reach an early agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that in the Conference on Disarmament there is no objection, in principle, to the idea of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, although the difficulties with regard to evolving a common approach acceptable to all have also been pointed out;

3. *Appeals* to all States, especially the nuclear-weapon States, to work actively towards an early agreement on a common approach and, in particular, on a common formula that could be included in an international instrument of a legally binding character;

4. *Recommends* that further intensive efforts be devoted to the search for such a common approach or common formula and that the various alternative approaches, including, in particular, those considered in the Conference on Disarmament, be explored further in order to overcome the difficulties;

5. *Also recommends* that the Conference on Disarmament actively continue intensive negotiations with a view to reaching early agreement and concluding effective international arrangements to assure the non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, taking into account the widespread support for the conclusion of an international convention and giving consideration to any other proposals designed to secure the same objective;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 57/57

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/509, para. 7),[32] by a recorded vote of 159 to none, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore,

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[30] Ibid., *Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/48/27), para. 39.

[31] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[32] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Uganda and Zambia.

Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

57/57. Prevention of an arms race in outer space

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the common interest of all mankind in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Reaffirming the will of all States that the exploration and use of outer space, including the Moon and other celestial bodies, shall be for peaceful purposes and shall be carried out for the benefit and in the interest of all countries, irrespective of their degree of economic or scientific development,

Reaffirming also the provisions of articles III and IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[33]

Recalling the obligation of all States to observe the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations regarding the use or threat of use of force in their international relations, including in their space activities,

Reaffirming paragraph 80 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[34] in which it is stated that in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, further measures should be taken and appropriate international negotiations held in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty,

Recalling its previous resolutions on this issue, and taking note of the proposals submitted to the General Assembly at its tenth special session and at its regular sessions, and of the recommendations made to the competent organs of the United Nations and to the Conference on Disarmament,

Recognizing that prevention of an arms race in outer space would avert a grave danger for international peace and security,

Emphasizing the paramount importance of strict compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament agreements relevant to outer space, including bilateral agreements, and with the existing legal regime concerning the use of outer space,

Considering that wide participation in the legal regime applicable to outer space could contribute to enhancing its effectiveness,

Noting that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, taking into account its previous efforts since its establishment in 1985 and seeking to enhance its functioning in qualitative terms, continued the examination and identification of various issues, existing agreements and existing proposals, as well as future initiatives relevant to the prevention of an arms race in outer space,[35] and that this contributed to a better understanding of a number of problems and to a clearer perception of the various positions,

Noting also that there were no objections in principle in the Conference on Disarmament to the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Committee, subject to re-examination of the mandate contained in the decision of the Conference on Disarmament of 13 February 1992,[36]

Emphasizing the mutually complementary nature of bilateral and multilateral efforts in the field of preventing an arms race in outer space, and hoping that concrete results will emerge from those efforts as soon as possible,

Convinced that further measures should be examined in the search for effective and verifiable bilateral and multilateral agreements in order to prevent an arms race in outer space, including the weaponization of outer space,

Stressing that the growing use of outer space increases the need for greater transparency and better information on the part of the international community,

Recalling, in this context, its previous resolutions, in particular resolutions 45/55 B of 4 December 1990, 47/51 of 9 December 1992 and 48/74 A of 16 December 1993, in which, inter alia, it reaffirmed the importance of confidence-building measures as a means conducive to ensuring the attainment of the objective of the prevention of an arms race in outer space,

Conscious of the benefits of confidence- and security-building measures in the military field,

Recognizing that negotiations for the conclusion of an international agreement or agreements to prevent an arms race in outer space remain a priority task of the Ad Hoc Committee and that the concrete proposals on confidence-building measures could form an integral part of such agreements,

1. *Reaffirms* the importance and urgency of preventing an arms race in outer space and the readiness of all States to contribute to that common objective, in conformity with the provisions of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies;[33]

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[33] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[34] Resolution S-10/2.

[35] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/49/27), sect. III.D (para. 5 of the quoted text).

[36] CD/1125.

2. *Reaffirms its recognition*, as stated in the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, that the legal regime applicable to outer space does not in and of itself guarantee the prevention of an arms race in outer space, that the regime plays a significant role in the prevention of an arms race in that environment, that there is a need to consolidate and reinforce that regime and enhance its effectiveness and that it is important to comply strictly with existing agreements, both bilateral and multilateral;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of further measures with appropriate and effective provisions for verification to prevent an arms race in outer space;

4. *Calls upon* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space and to refrain from actions contrary to that objective and to the relevant existing treaties in the interest of maintaining international peace and security and promoting international cooperation;

5. *Reiterates* that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, has the primary role in the negotiation of a multilateral agreement or agreements, as appropriate, on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to complete the examination and updating of the mandate contained in its decision of 13 February 1992[36] and to establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible during its 2003 session;

7. *Recognizes*, in this respect, the growing convergence of views on the elaboration of measures designed to strengthen transparency, confidence and security in the peaceful uses of outer space;

8. *Urges* States conducting activities in outer space, as well as States interested in conducting such activities, to keep the Conference on Disarmament informed of the progress of bilateral and multilateral negotiations on the matter, if any, so as to facilitate its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space".

RESOLUTION 57/58

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[37] by a recorded vote of 120 to 3, with 42 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/58. Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/33 D of 20 November 2000,

Stressing the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, a goal to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under its article VI,[38]

Recognizing that disarmament and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the necessity of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[39] and the necessity of upholding their commitments in associated decisions and final documents agreed upon at the 2000 and 1995 Review Conferences,

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[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Brazil, Egypt, Fiji, Ireland, Mexico, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sweden, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

[38] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[39] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996,[40]

Noting the importance attached to the issue of reducing non-strategic nuclear weapons by the Secretary-General in his report to the Millennium Assembly,[41]

Stressing the commitment made in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference to the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons,[42]

Concerned that the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and in stockpile still amounts to many thousands,

Reiterating that it is the particular responsibility of the nuclear-weapon States for transparent, verifiable and irreversible reductions of nuclear weapons, leading to nuclear disarmament,

Emphasizing that further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be accorded priority and be carried out in a comprehensive manner,

1. *Agrees* that reductions and elimination of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be included as an integral part of the nuclear-arms reduction and disarmament process;

2. *Agrees also* that reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be carried out in a transparent, verifiable and irreversible manner;

3. *Agrees further* on the importance of preserving, reaffirming, implementing and building upon the 1991 and 1992 presidential nuclear initiatives of the United States of America and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics/Russian Federation on non-strategic nuclear weapons;

4. *Calls upon* the Russian Federation and the United States of America to formalize their presidential nuclear initiatives into legal instruments and to initiate negotiations on further effectively verifiable reductions of their non-strategic nuclear weapons;

5. *Stresses* the importance of special security and physical protection measures for the transport and storage of non-strategic nuclear weapons, and calls upon all nuclear-weapon States in possession of such weapons to take the necessary steps in this regard;

6. *Calls* for further confidence-building and transparency measures to reduce the threats posed by non-strategic nuclear weapons;

7. *Calls also* for concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of non-strategic nuclear weapons systems;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons".

RESOLUTION 57/59

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[43] by a recorded vote of 125 to 6, with 36 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: France, India, Israel, Pakistan, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/59. Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/77 Y of 4 December 1998, 54/54 G of 1 December 1999 and 55/33 C of 20 November 2000,

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[40] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[41] See A/54/2000.

[42] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:9.

[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Ireland, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Mexico, Nauru, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sweden, Tuvalu, Ukraine, Uruguay and Vanuatu.

Convinced that the existence of nuclear weapons is a threat to the survival of humanity,

Declaring that the participation of the international community as a whole is central to the maintenance and enhancement of international peace and stability, and that international security is a collective concern requiring collective engagement,

Declaring also that internationally negotiated treaties in the field of disarmament have made a fundamental contribution to international peace and security, and that unilateral and bilateral nuclear disarmament measures complement the treaty-based multilateral approach towards nuclear disarmament,

Noting the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued at The Hague on 8 July 1996,[44]

Declaring that any presumption of the indefinite possession of nuclear weapons by the nuclear-weapon States is incompatible with the integrity and sustainability of the nuclear non-proliferation regime and with the broader goal of the maintenance of international peace and security,

Declaring also that it is essential that the fundamental principles of transparency, verification and irreversibility should apply to all nuclear disarmament measures,

Convinced that the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons constitutes an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process,

Declaring that each article of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[45] is binding on the respective States parties at all times and in all circumstances and that it is imperative that all States parties be held fully accountable with respect to the strict compliance with their obligations under the Treaty, and that the undertakings therein on nuclear disarmament have been given and that their implementation remains the imperative,

Expressing its deep concern that, to date, there have been few advances in the implementation of the thirteen steps agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[46]

Stressing the importance of regular reporting in promoting confidence in the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Expressing its deep concern at the continued failure of the Conference on Disarmament to deal with nuclear disarmament and to resume negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices,

Expressing grave concern that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[47] has not yet entered into force,

Expressing deep concern that the total number of nuclear weapons deployed and stockpiled still amounts to thousands, and at the continuing possibility that nuclear weapons could be used,

Acknowledging that reductions in the numbers of deployed strategic nuclear warheads envisaged by the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty")[48] represent a positive step in the process of nuclear de-escalation between the United States of America and the Russian Federation, while stressing that reductions in deployments and in operational status cannot substitute for irreversible cuts in, and the total elimination of, nuclear weapons,

Noting that, despite these bilateral achievements, there is no sign of efforts involving all of the five nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Expressing its deep concern that emerging approaches to the broader role of nuclear weapons as part of security strategies could lead to the development of new types, and rationalizations for the use, of nuclear weapons,

Expressing concern that the development of missile defences could impact negatively on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and lead to a new arms race on earth and in outer space,

Stressing that no steps should be taken which would lead to the weaponization of outer space,

Expressing its deep concern at the continued retention of the nuclear-weapons option by those three States that have not yet acceded to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, in particular given the effects of regional volatility on international security, and in this context, the continued regional tensions and deteriorating security situation in South Asia and the Middle East,

Welcoming Cuba's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[45] and its ratification of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[49]

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[44] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[45] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[46] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[47] See resolution 50/245.

[48] See CD/1674.

[49] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

Welcoming also the conclusion of negotiations among the Central Asian States on a treaty on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in that region, and underlining the importance of its entry into force as soon as possible,

Welcoming further the progress in the further development of nuclear-weapon-free zones in some regions and, in particular, the consolidation of that in the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[50] in which the heads of State and Government resolved to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Taking into consideration the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all the States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[51]

1. *Reaffirms* that any possibility that nuclear weapons could be used represents a continued risk for humanity;

2. *Calls upon* all States to refrain from any action that could lead to a new nuclear arms race or that could impact negatively on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

3. *Also calls upon* all States to observe international treaties in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and to duly fulfil all obligations flowing from those treaties;

4. *Calls upon* all States parties to pursue, with determination and with continued vigour, the full and effective implementation of the substantial agreements reached at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the outcome of which provides the requisite blueprint to achieve nuclear disarmament;

5. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to respect fully their existing commitments with regard to security assurances, pending the conclusion of multilaterally negotiated legally binding security assurances to all non-nuclear-weapon States parties, and agrees to prioritize this issue with a view to making recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

6. *Also calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States to increase their transparency and accountability with regard to their nuclear weapons arsenals and their implementation of disarmament measures;

7. *Reaffirms* the necessity for the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to consider regular reports to be submitted by all States parties on the implementation of article VI of the Treaty[45] as outlined in paragraph 15:12 of the 2000 Final Document,[46] and on paragraph 4 (*c*) of decision 2 of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty;[52]

8. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to implement the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons commitments to apply the principle of irreversibility by destroying their nuclear warheads in the context of strategic nuclear reductions and avoid keeping them in a state that lends itself to their possible redeployment;

9. *Agrees* on the importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[47]

10. *Calls* for the upholding and maintenance of the moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

11. *Underlines* the urgency of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in the context of the progress in implementing the international system to monitor nuclear weapons tests under the Treaty;

12. *Agrees* that the further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be accorded priority and that nuclear-weapon States must live up to their commitments in this regard;

13. *Agrees also* that reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be carried out in a transparent and irreversible manner and that the reduction and elimination of non-strategic nuclear weapons should be included in the overall arms reductions negotiations. In this context, urgent action should be taken to achieve:

(*a*) Further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(*b*) Further confidence-building and transparency measures to reduce the threats posed by non-strategic nuclear weapons;

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[50] See resolution 55/2.

[51] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[52] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, Part I (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

(*c*) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(*d*) The formalizing of existing informal bilateral arrangements regarding non-strategic nuclear reductions, such as the Bush-Gorbachev declarations of 1991, into legally binding agreements;

14. *Calls upon* nuclear-weapon States to undertake the necessary steps towards the seamless integration of all five nuclear-weapon States into a process leading to the total elimination of nuclear weapons;

15. *Agrees* that the Conference on Disarmament should establish without delay an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament;

16. *Agrees also* that the Conference on Disarmament should resume negotiations on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation objectives;

17. *Agrees further* that the Conference on Disarmament should complete the examination and updating of the mandate on the prevention of an arms race in outer space in all its aspects, as contained in its decision of 13 February 1992,[53] and re-establish an ad hoc committee as early as possible;

18. *Calls upon* those three States that are not yet parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities to accede to the Treaty as non-nuclear-weapon States, promptly and without condition, and to bring into force the required comprehensive safeguards agreements, together with additional protocols, consistent with the Model Protocol Additional to the Agreement(s) between State(s) and the International Atomic Energy Agency for the Application of Safeguards approved by the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency on 15 May 1997,[54] for ensuring nuclear non-proliferation, and to reverse clearly and urgently any policies to pursue any nuclear weapons development or deployment and refrain from any action that could undermine regional and international peace and security and the efforts of the international community towards nuclear disarmament and the prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation;

19. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to conclude full-scope safeguards agreements with the International Atomic Energy Agency and to conclude additional protocols to their safeguards agreements on the basis of the Model Protocol;

20. *Reaffirms the conviction* that the establishment of internationally recognized nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned enhances global and regional peace and security, strengthens the nuclear non-proliferation regime and contributes towards realizing the objective of nuclear disarmament, and supports proposals for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones where they do not yet exist, such as in the Middle East and South Asia;

21. *Calls* for the completion and implementation of the Trilateral Initiative between the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Russian Federation and the United States of America and for consideration to be given to the possible inclusion of other nuclear-weapon States;

22. *Calls upon* all nuclear-weapon States to make arrangements for the placing, as soon as practicable, of their fissile material no longer required for military purposes under International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and to make arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes in order to ensure that such material remains permanently outside military programmes;

23. *Affirms* that a nuclear-weapon-free world will ultimately require the underpinning of a universal and multilaterally negotiated legally binding instrument or a framework encompassing a mutually reinforcing set of instruments;

24. *Acknowledges* the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 C,[55] and requests him, within existing resources, to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

25. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda", and to review the implementation of the present resolution at that session.

RESOLUTION 57/60

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[56]

57/60. United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/33 E of 20 November 2000,

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[53] CD/1125.

[54] International Atomic Energy Agency, INFCIRC/540 (Corrected).

[55] A/56/309.

[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Egypt, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Monaco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Senegal, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand and Ukraine.

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of disarmament and non-proliferation and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps in order to strengthen that role,

Welcoming the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education, prepared by the Secretary-General with the assistance of governmental experts, pursuant to the above-mentioned resolution,[57]

Convinced that the need has never been greater for disarmament and non-proliferation education, especially on weapons of mass destruction, but also in the field of small arms and light weapons, terrorism and other challenges to international security and the process of disarmament,

Recognizing the importance of the role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation education,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for providing Member States with the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education,[57] which contains a series of recommendations for immediate and long-term implementation;

2. *Conveys* the recommendations for implementation, as appropriate, by Member States, the United Nations and other international organizations, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the media;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report reviewing the results of the implementation of the recommendations and to submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Disarmament and non-proliferation education".

RESOLUTION 57/61

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[58]

57/61. Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 I of 15 December 1994, 50/70 F of 12 December 1995, 51/45 C of 10 December 1996, 52/38 F of 9 December 1997, 53/77 AA of 4 December 1998, 54/54 U of 1 December 1999, 55/33 M of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 D of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also that, there being a consensus to do so in each case, three special sessions of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament were held in 1978, 1982 and 1988, respectively,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[59] adopted by consensus at the first special session devoted to disarmament, which included the Declaration, Programme of Action and Machinery for Disarmament,

Bearing in mind also the objective of general and complete disarmament under effective international control,

Taking note of paragraph 145 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[60] which supported the convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, which would offer an opportunity to review, from a perspective more in tune with the current international situation, the most critical aspects of the process of disarmament and to mobilize the international community and public opinion in favour of the elimination of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction and of the control and reduction of conventional weapons,

Taking note also of the report of the Disarmament Commission on its 1999 substantive session[61] and of the fact that no consensus was reached on the item entitled "Fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament",

Desiring to build upon the substantive exchange of views on the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the heads of State and Government during the United Nations Millennium Summit held in New York from 6 to 8 September 2000,[62] in which they resolved "to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers",

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[57] A/57/124.

[58] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[59] Resolution S-10/2.

[60] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[61] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42).

[62] See resolution 55/2.

Reiterating its conviction that a special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament can set the future course of action in the field of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Emphasizing the importance of multilateralism in the process of disarmament, arms control and related international security matters,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[63] regarding the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended working group, working on the basis of consensus, to consider the objectives and agenda, including the possible establishment of the preparatory committee, for the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament, taking note of the paper presented by the Chairman of Working Group II during the 1999 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission as well as the reports of the Secretary-General regarding the views of Member States on the objectives, agenda and timing of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

2. *Requests* the open-ended Working Group to hold an organizational session in order to set the date for its substantive sessions, and to submit a report on its work, including possible substantive recommendations, before the end of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to provide the open-ended Working Group with the necessary assistance and services as may be required to discharge its tasks;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/62

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[64] by a recorded vote of 164 to none, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

57/62. Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 55/33 J of 20 November 2000,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[65] as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

Emphasizing the necessity of easing international tension and strengthening trust and confidence between States,

Welcoming the initiatives by some States Parties to withdraw their reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[66]

2. *Renews its previous call* to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or

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[63] A/57/120.

[64] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[65] League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. XCIV (1929), No. 2138.

[66] A/57/96.

Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,[65] and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

3. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw them;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/63

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[67] by a recorded vote of 105 to 12, with 44 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Bulgaria, Germany, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Micronesia (Federated States of), Portugal, Romania, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, Yugoslavia

57/63. Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation

The General Assembly,

Determined to foster strict respect for the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolution 56/24 T of 29 November 2001 on multilateral cooperation in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and global efforts against terrorism and other relevant resolutions,

Recalling also the purpose of the United Nations to maintain international peace and security, and to that end, to take effective collective measures for the prevention and removal of threats to the peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of the peace, and to bring about by peaceful means, and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of the peace, as enshrined in the Charter,

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[68] which states, inter alia, that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally and that, as the most universal and most representative organization in the world, the United Nations must play the central role,

Convinced that in the globalization era and with the information revolution, arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament problems are more than ever the concern of all countries in the world, which are affected one way or another by these problems and, therefore, should have the possibility to participate in the negotiations that arise to tackle them,

Bearing in mind the existence of a broad structure of disarmament and arms regulation agreements resulting from non-discriminatory multilateral negotiations with the participation of a large number of countries, regardless of their size and power,

Aware of the need to advance further in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament on the basis of universal, multilateral, non-discriminatory negotiations with the goal of reaching general and complete disarmament under strict international control,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations on disarmament,

Recognizing also that the proliferation and development of weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear weapons, are among the most immediate threats to international peace and security which need to be dealt with, with the highest priority,

Considering that the multilateral disarmament agreements provide the mechanism for States parties to consult one another and to cooperate in solving any problems which may arise in relation to the objective of, or in the application of, the provisions of the agreements and that such consultations and cooperation may also be undertaken through appropriate international procedures within the framework of the United Nations and in accordance with the Charter,

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[67] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[68] See resolution 55/2.

Stressing that international cooperation, peaceful settlement of disputes, dialogue and confidence-building measures would contribute essentially to the creation of multilateral and bilateral friendly relations among peoples and nations,

Being concerned at the continuous erosion of multilateralism in the field of arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament, and recognizing that a resort to unilateral actions by Member States in resolving their security concerns would jeopardize international peace and security and undermine confidence in the international security system as well as the foundations of the United Nations itself,

Reaffirming the absolute validity of multilateral diplomacy in the field of disarmament, and determined to promote multilateralism as an essential way to develop arms regulation and disarmament negotiations,

1. *Reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in negotiations in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation with a view to maintaining and strengthening universal norms and enlarging their scope;

2. *Also reaffirms* multilateralism as the core principle in resolving disarmament and non-proliferation concerns;

3. *Urges* the participation of all interested States in multilateral negotiations on arms regulation, non-proliferation and disarmament in a non-discriminatory manner;

4. *Underlines* the importance of preserving the existing agreements on arms regulation and disarmament, which constitute an expression of the results of international cooperation and multilateral negotiations in response to the challenges facing mankind;

5. *Calls once again upon* all Member States to renew and fulfil their individual and collective commitments to multilateral cooperation as an important means of pursuing and achieving their common objectives in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the relevant instruments on weapons of mass destruction to consult and cooperate among themselves in resolving their concerns with regard to cases of non-compliance as well as on implementation, in accordance with the procedures defined in those instruments, and to refrain from resorting or threatening to resort to unilateral actions or directing unverified non-compliance accusations against one another to resolve their concerns;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the issue of the promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation".

RESOLUTION 57/64

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[69] by a recorded vote of 163 to none, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

57/64. Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 M of 12 December 1995, 51/45 E of 10 December 1996, 52/38 E of 9 December 1997, 53/77 J of 4 December 1998, 54/54 S of 1 December 1999, 55/33 K of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 F of 29 November 2001,

Emphasizing the importance of the observance of environmental norms in the preparation and implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements,

Recognizing that it is necessary to take duly into account the agreements adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, as well as prior relevant agreements, in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms limitation,

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[69] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[70]

Mindful of the detrimental environmental effects of the use of nuclear weapons,

1. *Reaffirms* that international disarmament forums should take fully into account the relevant environmental norms in negotiating treaties and agreements on disarmament and arms limitation and that all States, through their actions, should contribute fully to ensuring compliance with the aforementioned norms in the implementation of treaties and conventions to which they are parties;

2. *Calls upon* States to adopt unilateral, bilateral, regional and multilateral measures so as to contribute to ensuring the application of scientific and technological progress in the framework of international security, disarmament and other related spheres, without detriment to the environment or to its effective contribution to attaining sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the information provided by Member States on the implementation of the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution;[70]

4. *Invites* all Member States to communicate to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted to promote the objectives envisaged in the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report containing this information to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control".

RESOLUTION 57/65

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[71] by a recorded vote of 160 to 1, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: France, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/65. Relationship between disarmament and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the provisions of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly concerning the relationship between disarmament and development,[72]

Recalling also the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development,[73]

Recalling further its resolutions 49/75 J of 15 December 1994, 50/70 G of 12 December 1995, 51/45 D of 10 December 1996, 52/38 D of 9 December 1997, 53/77 K of 4 December 1998, 54/54 T of 1 December 1999, 55/33 L of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 E of 29 November 2001,

Bearing in mind the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[74] and the Final Document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[75]

Welcoming the different activities organized by the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development and the views and proposals received from Governments on the issue, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[76]

Stressing the importance of the symbiotic relationship between disarmament and development in current international relations, and concerned at increasing global military expenditure, which could otherwise be spent on development needs,

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[70] A/57/121 and Add.1 and 2.

[71] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[72] See resolution S-10/2.

[73] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.IX.8.

[74] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[75] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[76] See A/57/167 and Add.1.

Taking into account developments in the context of disarmament and international security since the end of the cold war, as well as new perspectives and goals on development issues emerging from, inter alia, the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[77] the Doha Ministerial Declaration of the World Trade Organization, adopted on 14 November 2001,[78] the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, adopted on 22 March 2002,[79] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[80] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[81] adopted on 4 September 2002,

Mindful of the changes in international relations that have taken place since the adoption on 11 September 1987 of the Final Document of the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development, including the development agenda that has emerged over the past decade,

Bearing in mind the new challenges for the international community in the field of development, poverty eradication and the elimination of the diseases that afflict humanity,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 56/24 E,[76] including its proposal to consider the establishment of a group of governmental experts to undertake a review of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the role of the Organization in this connection;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within available financial resources and with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be established in 2003 on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, while seeking the views of States, to present for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report with recommendations for a reappraisal of the relationship between disarmament and development in the current international context, as well as the future role of the Organization in this connection;

3. *Calls upon* the high-level Steering Group on Disarmament and Development to strengthen and enhance its programme of activities, in accordance with the mandate contained in subparagraph (ix) *b* of paragraph 35 (*c*) of the action programme adopted at the International Conference on the Relationship between Disarmament and Development;[73]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take action, through appropriate organs and within available resources, for the implementation of the action programme;

5. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever widening gap between developed and developing countries;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Relationship between disarmament and development".

RESOLUTION 57/66

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[82] by a recorded vote of 166 to none, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: None

57/66. National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security and that effective national control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology is an important tool in achieving these objectives,

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[77] See resolution 55/2.

[78] WT/MIN(01)/DEC/1.

[79] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[80] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[81] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[82] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Netherlands.

Recalling that the States parties to the international disarmament and non-proliferation treaties have undertaken, inter alia, both to control transfers that could contribute to proliferation activities and to facilitate the fullest possible exchange of materials, equipment and technological information for peaceful purposes, in accordance with the provisions of those treaties,

Considering that the exchange of national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology contributes to mutual understanding and confidence among Member States,

Convinced that such an exchange would be beneficial to Member States that are in the process of developing such legislation,

Reaffirming the inherent right of individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Invites* Member States that are in a position to do so to enact or improve national legislation, regulations and procedures to exercise effective control over the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, while ensuring that such legislation, regulations and procedures are consistent with the obligations of States parties under international treaties;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to the Secretary-General on their national legislation, regulations and procedures on the transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology, as well as the changes therein, and requests the Secretary-General to make this information accessible for Member States;

3. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology".

RESOLUTION 57/67

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[83]

57/67. Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/77 D of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 S of 20 November 2000,

Recalling also the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[84]

Bearing in mind its resolution 49/31 of 9 December 1994 on the protection and security of small States,

Proceeding from the fact that nuclear-weapon-free status is one of the means of ensuring the national security of States,

Convinced that the internationally recognized status of Mongolia will contribute to enhancing stability and confidence-building in the region as well as promote Mongolia's security by strengthening its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders and the preservation of its ecological balance,

Taking note of the adoption by the Mongolian parliament of legislation defining and regulating its nuclear-weapon-free status[85] as a concrete step towards promoting the aims of nuclear non-proliferation,

Bearing in mind the joint statement of the five nuclear-weapon States on security assurances to Mongolia in connection with its nuclear-weapon-free status[86] as a contribution to implementing resolution 53/77 D as well as their commitment to Mongolia to cooperate in the implementation of the resolution, in accordance with the principles of the Charter,

Noting that the joint statement has been transmitted to the Security Council by the five nuclear-weapon States,

Mindful that the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, at the Ministerial Meeting of its Coordinating Bureau, held at Durban, South Africa on 29 April 2002, has welcomed and expressed its support for the policy of Mongolia to institutionalize its nuclear-weapon-free status as a concrete contribution to the international efforts to strengthen the non-proliferation regime and enhance predictability in north-east Asia,

Noting other measures taken to implement resolution 55/33 S at the national and international levels,

Welcoming Mongolia's active and positive role in developing peaceful, friendly and mutually beneficial relations with the States of the region and other States,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 S,[87]

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Mongolia.

[84] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[85] See A/55/56-S/2000/160.

[86] A/55/530-S/2000/1052, annex.

[87] A/57/159.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 55/33 S;[87]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for the efforts to implement resolution 55/33 S;

3. *Endorses and supports* Mongolia's good-neighbourly and balanced relationship with its neighbours as an important element of strengthening regional peace, security and stability;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts made by Member States to cooperate with Mongolia in implementing resolution 55/33 S, as well as the progress made in consolidating Mongolia's international security;

5. *Invites* Member States to continue to cooperate with Mongolia in taking the necessary measures to consolidate and strengthen Mongolia's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the inviolability of its borders, its economic security, its ecological balance and its nuclear-weapon-free status, as well as its independent foreign policy;

6. *Appeals* to the Member States of the Asia and Pacific region to support Mongolia's efforts to join the relevant regional security and economic arrangements;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to provide assistance to Mongolia in taking the necessary measures mentioned in paragraph 5 above;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status".

RESOLUTION 57/68

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[88]

57/68. Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/77 Z of 4 December 1998 and other relevant resolutions,

Welcoming the completion of strategic arms reductions codified in the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START)[89] by Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America,

Agreeing that new global challenges and threats require the building of a qualitatively new foundation for strategic relations between the United States of America and the Russian Federation,

Noting with satisfaction the building of the new strategic relationship between the United States of America and the Russian Federation based on the principles of mutual security, trust, openness, cooperation and predictability,

Appreciating the joint determination of the two countries to work together and with other nations and international organizations to promote security, economic well-being and a peaceful, prosperous free world,

Applauding the agreement whereby each country will reduce its strategic nuclear warheads to a number that does not exceed 1,700 to 2,200, as specified in the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"),[90] by 31 December 2012,

Believing that the agreed strategic reductions advance the commitment of both the United States of America and the Russian Federation under article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[91]

Appreciating that the United States of America and the Russian Federation will continue to work closely together, including through cooperative programmes, to ensure the security of weapons of mass destruction and missile technologies, information, expertise and material,

1. *Welcomes* the commitment of the two countries to strategic nuclear warhead reductions in the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"), signed on 24 May 2002,[90] which is an important result of this new bilateral strategic relationship and which will help to establish more favourable conditions for actively promoting security and cooperation and enhancing international stability;

2. *Looks forward* to the entry into force of the Moscow Treaty at the earliest possible date;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the Joint Declaration signed by the United States of America and the Russian Federation in Moscow on 24 May 2002,[90] which, inter alia, created the Consultative Group for Strategic Security, chaired by Foreign

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[88] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

[89] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[90] See CD/1674.

[91] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

and Defence Ministers, through which the United States of America and the Russian Federation will strengthen mutual confidence, expand transparency, share information and plans and discuss strategic issues of mutual interest;

4. *Recognizes* that the Group of Eight Global Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction, launched by leaders at the Kananaskis Summit, held at Kananaskis, Canada, on 26 and 27 June 2002, will enhance international security and safety by supporting specific cooperation projects, initially in the Russian Federation, to address non-proliferation, disarmament, counter-terrorism and nuclear safety issues;

5. *Invites* all countries, as appropriate, to join the Group of Eight commitment to the non-proliferation principles endorsed by the Group of Eight leaders at the Kananaskis Summit aimed at preventing terrorists, or those who harbour them, from acquiring or developing nuclear, chemical, radiological and biological weapons, missiles, and related materials, equipment and technology;

6. *Invites* the United States of America and the Russian Federation to keep other States Members of the United Nations duly informed of their strategic offensive reductions;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework".

RESOLUTION 57/69

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[92]

57/69. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/38 S of 9 December 1997, 53/77 A of 4 December 1998 and 55/33 W of 20 November 2000 and its decisions 54/417 of 1 December 1999 and 56/412 of 29 November 2001,

Recalling also paragraphs 60, 61, 62 and 64 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[93] and the provisions of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[94] and recalling further the relevant paragraphs of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[95] and of the report of its Main Committee II[96] concerning the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Convinced that the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones contributes to the achievement of general and complete disarmament,

Emphasizing the importance of internationally recognized treaties on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in different regions of the world and on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of principles and guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned,[97]

Considering that the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region[98] will heighten the security of the States concerned and strengthen global and regional peace and security,

Recalling the Almaty Declaration on the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in Central Asia, adopted by the leaders of the Central Asian States on 28 February 1997,[99] the statement issued at Tashkent on 15 September 1997 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan on the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia[100] and the Communiqué of the Consultative Meeting of Experts of the Central Asian Countries, the Nuclear-Weapon States and the United Nations, held at Bishkek on 9 and 10 July 1998,[101] with a view to elaborating acceptable ways and means of establishing a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia,

Reaffirming the universally recognized role of the United Nations in the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones,

1. *Notes with appreciation* the support of all States for the initiative to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

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[92] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[93] Resolution S-10/2.

[94] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[95] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I.

[96] Ibid., vol. II (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Part III)), sect. 6, document NPT/CONF.2000/MC.II/1.

[97] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[98] Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

[99] A/52/112, annex.

[100] A/52/390, annex.

[101] A/53/183, annex.

2. *Takes note* of the elaboration by experts of all five Central Asian States at the meeting held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan, from 25 to 27 September 2002, of a draft treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and protocol thereto;

3. *Invites* all five Central Asian States to continue consulting with the five nuclear-weapon States on the draft treaty for the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia and the protocol thereto, in conformity with the 1999 Disarmament Commission agreed guidelines for the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones;[97]

4. *Welcomes* the decision by all five Central Asian States to sign the Central Asian nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty as soon as possible;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, within existing resources, to continue to provide assistance to the five Central Asian States in their further work for the early establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "General and complete disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/70

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[102]

57/70. Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them

The General Assembly,

Considering that the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms impede development, constitute a threat to populations and to national and regional security and are a factor contributing to the destabilization of States,

Deeply disturbed by the magnitude of the illicit proliferation and circulation of and traffic in small arms in the States of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion,

Noting with satisfaction the conclusions of the United Nations advisory missions dispatched by the Secretary-General to the affected countries of the subregion to study the most appropriate way of halting the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting them,

Welcoming the designation of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat as a centre for the coordination of all activities of United Nations bodies concerned with small arms,

Thanking the Secretary-General for his report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[103] and bearing in mind the statement on small arms made by the President of the Security Council on 24 September 1999,[104]

Welcoming the recommendations resulting from the meetings of the States of the subregion held at Banjul, Algiers, Bamako, Yamoussoukro and Niamey to establish close regional cooperation with a view to strengthening security,

Welcoming also the decision taken by the Economic Community of West African States concerning the renewal of the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted at Abuja on 31 October 1998,[105]

Recalling the Algiers Declaration adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[106]

Emphasizing the need to advance efforts towards wider cooperation and better coordination in the struggle against the illicit proliferation of small arms through the common understanding reached at the meeting on small arms held at Oslo on 13 and 14 July 1998[107] and the Brussels Call for Action adopted by the International Conference on Sustainable Disarmament for Sustainable Development, held at Brussels on 12 and 13 October 1998,[108]

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and

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[102] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Belgium, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Togo, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[103] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[104] S/PRST/1999/28; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999.*

[105] A/53/763-S/1998/1194, annex.

[106] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Decl. 1 (XXXV).

[107] See CD/1556.

[108] A/53/681, annex.

Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons, adopted at Bamako on 1 December 2000,[109]

Recalling the millennium report of the Secretary-General,[110]

Welcoming the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[111] and calling for its expeditious implementation,

Recognizing the important role that the organizations of civil society play in detection, prevention and raising public awareness, in efforts to curb the illicit traffic in small arms,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the Declaration of the Ministerial Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa, held in Abuja on 8 and 9 May 2000,[112] and encourages the Secretary-General to pursue his efforts in the context of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 49/75 G of 15 December 1994 and the recommendations of the United Nations advisory missions, aimed at curbing the illicit circulation of small arms and collecting such arms in the affected States that so request, with the support of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa and in close cooperation with the African Union;

2. *Encourages* the establishment in the countries of the Sahelo-Saharan subregion of national commissions to combat the illicit proliferation of small arms, and invites the international community to lend its support wherever possible to ensure the smooth functioning of the commissions;

3. *Welcomes* the decision to renew the Declaration of a Moratorium on the Importation, Exportation and Manufacture of Small Arms and Light Weapons in West Africa, adopted by the heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of West African States in Abuja on 31 October 1998,[105] and encourages the international community to support the implementation of the moratorium;

4. *Encourages* the involvement of organizations and associations of civil society in the efforts of the national commissions to combat the illicit traffic in small arms and their participation in the implementation of the moratorium on the importation, exportation and manufacture of small arms and light weapons in West Africa as well as in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[111]

5. *Encourages also* cooperation among State organs, international organizations and civil society in combating the illicit traffic in small arms and supporting operations to collect the said arms in the subregions;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide technical and financial support to strengthen the capacity of civil organizations to take action to combat the illicit trade in small arms;

7. *Takes note* of the conclusions of the meeting of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Economic Community of West African States, held in Bamako on 24 and 25 March 1999, on the modalities for the implementation of the Programme for Coordination and Assistance for Security and Development, and welcomes the adoption by the meeting of a plan of action;

8. *Takes note also* of the conclusions of the African Conference on the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms: Needs and Partnerships, held in Pretoria, South Africa, from 18 to 21 March 2002;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General, and those States and organizations that are in a position to do so to provide assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to consider the matter and to report to it at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them".

RESOLUTION 57/71

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[113] by a recorded vote of 104 to 3, with 60 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan,

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[109] A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

[110] A/54/2000.

[111] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9-20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[112] A/55/286, annex II, decision AHG/Decl. 4 (XXXVI).

[113] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Egypt, Indonesia and Iran (Islamic Republic of).

Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/71. Missiles

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 F of 1 December 1999, 55/33 A of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 B of 29 November 2001,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations in the field of arms regulation and disarmament and the commitment of Member States to take concrete steps to strengthen that role,

Realizing the need to promote regional and international peace and security in a world free from the scourge of war and the burden of armaments,

Convinced of the need for a comprehensive approach towards missiles, in a balanced and non-discriminatory manner, as a contribution to international peace and security,

Bearing in mind that the security concerns of Member States at the international and regional levels should be taken into consideration in addressing the issue of missiles,

Underlining the complexities involved in considering the issue of missiles in the conventional context,

Expressing its support for the international efforts against the development and proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction,

Considering that the Secretary-General, in response to resolution 55/33 A, established a Panel of Governmental Experts to assist him in preparing a report for the consideration of the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the issue of missiles in all its aspects,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the issue of missiles in all its aspects;[114]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the report on the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a Panel of Governmental Experts, to explore further the issue of missiles in all its aspects and to submit a report for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General containing the replies from Member States on the issue of missiles in all its aspects, submitted pursuant to resolution 56/24 B;[115]

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Missiles".

RESOLUTION 57/72

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[116]

57/72. The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 56/24 V of 24 December 2001,

Recalling its resolutions 50/70 B of 12 December 1995, 52/38 J of 9 December 1997, 53/77 E and 53/77 T of 4 December 1998, 54/54 R of 1 December 1999, 54/54 V of 15 December 1999 and 55/33 Q of 20 November 2000,

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[114] A/57/229.

[115] A/57/114 and Add.1 and 2.

[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Emphasizing the importance of early and full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[117] adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,

1. *Decides* to convene in New York in July 2003 the first of the biennial meetings of States, as stipulated in the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects to consider the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and global levels;

2. *Welcomes* the convening of the Group of Governmental Experts established to assist the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the feasibility of developing an international instrument to enable States to identify and trace, in a timely and reliable manner, illicit small arms and light weapons, and requests him to submit the study to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Encourages* all initiatives to mobilize resources and expertise to promote the implementation of the Programme of Action and to provide assistance to States in its implementation;

4. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session further steps to enhance international cooperation in preventing, combating and eradicating illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons, taking into consideration the views of States, provided to the Secretary-General, on further steps that could be taken;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to collate and circulate data and information provided by States on a voluntary basis, including national reports, on the implementation by those States of the Programme of Action;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects".

RESOLUTION 57/73

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[118] by a recorded vote of 160 to 3, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: India, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Russian Federation, Spain

57/73. Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 B of 10 December 1996, 52/38 N of 9 December 1997, 53/77 Q of 4 December 1998, 54/54 L of 1 December 1999, 55/33 I of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 G of 29 November 2001,

Welcoming the adoption by the Disarmament Commission at its 1999 substantive session of a text entitled "Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned",[119]

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[117] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Brune Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nauru, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Samoa, Senegal, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Thailand, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela and Vie Nam.

Welcoming also the ratification by Cuba of the Treaty of Tlatelolco,[120] which fulfils the establishment of the first inhabited nuclear-weapon-free zone, encompassing all States of Latin America and the Caribbean,

Welcoming further the ratification by the Kingdom of Tonga of the Treaty of Rarotonga,[121] in December 2001, which completes the list of original parties to the South Pacific nuclear-free-zone treaty,

Welcoming the endorsement from heads of State and Government at the thirty-third Pacific Islands Forum, held in Suva from 15 to 17 August 2002, for a nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere,

Welcoming also the meeting between the Secretary General of the Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean and representatives of the Pacific Islands Forum secretariat, held in New York in April 2002, aimed at identifying areas for further cooperation,

Determined to pursue the total elimination of nuclear weapons,

Determined also to continue to contribute to the prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to the process of general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control, in particular in the field of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, with a view to strengthening international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the provisions on nuclear-weapon-free zones of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[122] the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Stressing the importance of the treaties of Tlatelolco,[120] Rarotonga,[121] Bangkok[123] and Pelindaba,[124] establishing nuclear-weapon-free zones, as well as the Antarctic Treaty,[125] to, inter alia, achieve a world entirely free of nuclear weapons,

Underlining the value of enhancing cooperation among the nuclear-weapon-free zone treaty members by means of mechanisms such as joint meetings of States parties, signatories and observers to those treaties,

Recalling the applicable principles and rules of international law relating to the freedom of the high seas and the rights of passage through maritime space, including those of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[126]

1. *Welcomes* the continued contribution that the Antarctic Treaty[125] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[120] Rarotonga,[121] Bangkok[123] and Pelindaba[124] are making towards freeing the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons;

2. *Calls* for the ratification of the treaties of Rarotonga and Pelindaba by all States of the region, and calls upon all concerned States to continue to work together in order to facilitate adherence to the protocols to nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties by all relevant States that have not yet done so;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken to conclude further nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties on the basis of arrangements freely arrived at among the States of the region concerned, and calls upon all States to consider all relevant proposals, including those reflected in its resolutions on the establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones in the Middle East and South Asia;

4. *Affirms its conviction* of the important role of nuclear-weapon-free zones in strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime and in extending the areas of the world that are nuclear-weapon-free, and, with particular reference to the responsibilities of the nuclear-weapon States, calls upon all States to support the process of nuclear disarmament and to work for the total elimination of all nuclear weapons;

5. *Calls upon* the States parties and signatories to the treaties of Tlatelolco, Rarotonga, Bangkok and Pelindaba, in order to pursue the common goals envisaged in those treaties and to promote the nuclear-weapon-free status of the southern hemisphere and adjacent areas, to explore and implement further ways and means of cooperation among themselves and their treaty agencies;

6. *Welcomes* the vigorous efforts being made among States parties and signatories to those treaties to promote their common objectives, and considers that an international conference of States parties and signatories to the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties might be held to support the common goals envisaged in those treaties;

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[119] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex I.

[120] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[121] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10: 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[122] Resolution S-10/2.

[123] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[124] A/50/426, annex.

[125] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[126] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

7. *Encourages* the competent authorities of the nuclear-weapon-free-zone treaties to provide assistance to the States parties and signatories to those treaties so as to facilitate the accomplishment of these goals;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas".

RESOLUTION 57/74

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[127] by a recorded vote of 143 to none, with 23 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Azerbaijan, China, Cuba, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Myanmar, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, United States of America, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

57/74. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/54 B of 1 December 1999, 55/33 V of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 M of 29 November 2001,

Reaffirming its determination to put an end to the suffering and casualties caused by anti-personnel mines, which kill or maim hundreds of people every week, mostly innocent and defenceless civilians and especially children, obstruct economic development and reconstruction, inhibit the repatriation of refugees and internally displaced persons, and have other severe consequences for years after emplacement,

Believing it necessary to do the utmost to contribute in an efficient and coordinated manner to facing the challenge of removing anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world, and to assure their destruction,

Wishing to do the utmost in ensuring assistance for the care and rehabilitation, including the social and economic reintegration, of mine victims,

Welcoming the entry into force, on 1 March 1999, of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[128] and noting with satisfaction the work undertaken to implement the Convention and the substantial progress made towards addressing the global landmine problem,

Recalling the First Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention, held at Maputo from 3 to 7 May 1999, and the reaffirmation made in the Maputo Declaration of a commitment to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines,[129]

Recalling also the Second Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 11 to 15 September 2000, and the Declaration of the Second Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment to implement completely and fully all provisions of the Convention,[130]

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[127] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[128] See CD/1478.

[129] See APLC/MSP.1/1999/1, part II.

[130] See APLC/MSP.2/2000/1, part II.

Recalling further the Third Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Managua from 18 to 21 September 2001, and the Declaration of the Third Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the unwavering commitment both to the total eradication of anti-personnel mines and to addressing the insidious and inhumane effects of those weapons,[131]

Recalling the Fourth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention, held at Geneva from 16 to 20 September 2002, and the Declaration of the Fourth Meeting of States Parties reaffirming the commitment of the States parties to intensify further their efforts in those areas most directly related to the core humanitarian objectives of the Convention,[132]

Noting with satisfaction that additional States have ratified or acceded to the Convention, bringing the total number of States that have formally accepted the obligations of the Convention to one hundred and twenty-nine,

Emphasizing the desirability of attracting the adherence of all States to the Convention, and determined to work strenuously towards the promotion of its universalization,

Noting with regret that anti-personnel mines continue to be used in conflicts around the world, causing human suffering and impeding post-conflict development,

1. *Invites* all States that have not signed the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction[128] to accede to it without delay;

2. *Urges* all States that have signed but not ratified the Convention to ratify it without delay;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the Convention;

4. *Urges* all States parties to provide the Secretary-General with complete and timely information as required under article 7 of the Convention, in order to promote transparency and compliance with the Convention;

5. *Invites* all States that have not ratified the Convention or acceded to it to provide, on a voluntary basis, information to make global mine action efforts more effective;

6. *Renews its call upon* all States and other relevant parties to work together to promote, support and advance the care, rehabilitation and social and economic reintegration of mine victims, mine risk education programmes, and the removal of anti-personnel mines placed throughout the world and the assurance of their destruction;

7. *Invites and encourages* all interested States, the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to participate in the programme of intersessional work established at the First Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and further developed at the Second, Third and Fourth Meetings of States Parties to the Convention;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with article 11, paragraph 2, of the Convention, to undertake the preparations necessary to convene the Fifth Meeting of States Parties to the Convention at Bangkok from 15 to 19 September 2003, and, on behalf of States parties and in accordance with article 11, paragraph 4, of the Convention, to invite States not parties to the Convention, as well as the United Nations, other relevant international organizations or institutions, regional organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations to attend the Meeting as observers;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 57/75

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[133] by a recorded vote of 143 to none, with 23 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India,

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[131] See APLC/MSP.3/2001/1, part II.

[132] See APLC/MSP.4/2002/1, part II.

[133] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

57/75. Transparency in armaments

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991, 47/52 L of 15 December 1992, 48/75 E of 16 December 1993, 49/75 C of 15 December 1994, 50/70 D of 12 December 1995, 51/45 H of 10 December 1996, 52/38 R of 9 December 1997, 53/77 V of 4 December 1998, 54/54 O of 1 December 1999, 55/33 U of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 Q of 29 November 2001 entitled "Transparency in armaments",

Continuing to take the view that an enhanced level of transparency in armaments contributes greatly to confidence-building and security among States and that the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms[134] constitutes an important step forward in the promotion of transparency in military matters,

Welcoming the consolidated report of the Secretary-General on the Register,[135] which includes the returns of Member States for 2001,

Welcoming also the response of Member States to the request contained in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 46/36 L to provide data on their imports and exports of arms, as well as available background information regarding their military holdings, procurement through national production and relevant policies,

Stressing that the continuing operation of the Register and its further development should be reviewed in order to secure a Register that is capable of attracting the widest possible participation,

1. *Reaffirms* its determination to ensure the effective operation of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms,[134] as provided for in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution 46/36 L;

2. *Calls upon* Member States, with a view to achieving universal participation, to provide the Secretary-General by 31 May annually with the requested data and information for the Register, including nil reports if appropriate, on the basis of resolutions 46/36 L and 47/52 L, the recommendations contained in paragraph 64 of the 1997 report of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development[136] and the recommendations contained in paragraph 94 of the 2000 report of the Secretary-General and the appendices and annexes thereto;[137]

3. *Invites* Member States in a position to do so, pending further development of the Register, to provide additional information on procurement from national production and military holdings and to make use of the "Remarks" column in the standardized reporting form to provide additional information such as types or models;

4. *Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of and participation in the Register under review and, to that end:

(*a*) Recalls its request to Member States to provide the Secretary-General with their views on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and on transparency measures related to weapons of mass destruction;

(*b*) Requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened in 2003, on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to a decision at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement the recommendations contained in his 2000 report on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development and to ensure that sufficient resources are made available for the Secretariat to operate and maintain the Register;

6. *Invites* the Conference on Disarmament to consider continuing its work undertaken in the field of transparency in armaments;

7. *Reiterates its call upon* all Member States to cooperate at the regional and subregional levels, taking fully into account the specific conditions prevailing in the region or subregion, with a view to enhancing and coordinating

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[134] See resolution 46/36 L.

[135] A/57/221 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2.

[136] A/52/316 and Corr.2.

[137] A/55/281.

international efforts aimed at increased openness and transparency in armaments;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on progress made in implementing the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Transparency in armaments".

RESOLUTION 57/76

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[138]

57/76. Regional disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 45/58 P of 4 December 1990, 46/36 I of 6 December 1991, 47/52 J of 9 December 1992, 48/75 I of 16 December 1993, 49/75 N of 15 December 1994, 50/70 K of 12 December 1995, 51/45 K of 10 December 1996, 52/38 P of 9 December 1997, 53/77 O of 4 December 1998, 54/54 N of 1 December 1999, 55/33 O of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 H of 29 November 2001 on regional disarmament,

Believing that the efforts of the international community to move towards the ideal of general and complete disarmament are guided by the inherent human desire for genuine peace and security, the elimination of the danger of war and the release of economic, intellectual and other resources for peaceful pursuits,

Affirming the abiding commitment of all States to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations in the conduct of their international relations,

Noting that essential guidelines for progress towards general and complete disarmament were adopted at the tenth special session of the General Assembly,[139]

Taking note of the guidelines and recommendations for regional approaches to disarmament within the context of global security adopted by the Disarmament Commission at its 1993 substantive session,[140]

Welcoming the prospects of genuine progress in the field of disarmament engendered in recent years as a result of negotiations between the two super-Powers,

Taking note of the recent proposals for disarmament at the regional and subregional levels,

Recognizing the importance of confidence-building measures for regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that endeavours by countries to promote regional disarmament, taking into account the specific characteristics of each region and in accordance with the principle of undiminished security at the lowest level of armaments, would enhance the security of all States and would thus contribute to international peace and security by reducing the risk of regional conflicts,

1. *Stresses* that sustained efforts are needed, within the framework of the Conference on Disarmament and under the umbrella of the United Nations, to make progress on the entire range of disarmament issues;

2. *Affirms* that global and regional approaches to disarmament complement each other and should therefore be pursued simultaneously to promote regional and international peace and security;

3. *Calls upon* States to conclude agreements, wherever possible, for nuclear non-proliferation, disarmament and confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels;

4. *Welcomes* the initiatives towards disarmament, nuclear non-proliferation and security undertaken by some countries at the regional and subregional levels;

5. *Supports and encourages* efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and subregional levels to ease regional tensions and to further disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation measures at the regional and subregional levels;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Regional disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/77

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[141] by a recorded vote of 165 to 1, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany,

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[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Egypt, Georgia, Indonesia, Jordan, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan and Turkey.

[139] Resolution S-10/2.

[140] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/48/42), annex II.

[141] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Belarus, Georgia, Germany, Italy, Nepal, Pakistan, Peru, Spain and Ukraine.

Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: India

Abstaining: Bhutan

57/77. Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 J of 16 December 1993, 49/75 O of 15 December 1994, 50/70 L of 12 December 1995, 51/45 Q of 10 December 1996, 52/38 Q of 9 December 1997, 53/77 P of 4 December 1998, 54/54 M of 1 December 1999, 55/33 P of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 I of 29 November 2001,

Recognizing the crucial role of conventional arms control in promoting regional and international peace and security,

Convinced that conventional arms control needs to be pursued primarily in the regional and subregional contexts since most threats to peace and security in the post-cold-war era arise mainly among States located in the same region or subregion,

Aware that the preservation of a balance in the defence capabilities of States at the lowest level of armaments would contribute to peace and stability and should be a prime objective of conventional arms control,

Desirous of promoting agreements to strengthen regional peace and security at the lowest possible level of armaments and military forces,

Noting with particular interest the initiatives taken in this regard in different regions of the world, in particular the commencement of consultations among a number of Latin American countries and the proposals for conventional arms control made in the context of South Asia, and recognizing, in the context of this subject, the relevance and value of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe,[142] which is a cornerstone of European security,

Believing that militarily significant States and States with larger military capabilities have a special responsibility in promoting such agreements for regional security,

Believing also that an important objective of conventional arms control in regions of tension should be to prevent the possibility of military attack launched by surprise and to avoid aggression,

1. *Decides* to give urgent consideration to the issues involved in conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to consider the formulation of principles that can serve as a framework for regional agreements on conventional arms control, and looks forward to a report of the Conference on this subject;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the meantime, to seek the views of Member States on the subject and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels".

RESOLUTION 57/78

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[143] by a recorded vote of 156 to 2, with 13 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

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[142] CD/1064.

[143] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea and Ukraine.

Against: India, United States of America

Abstaining: Brazil, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Ireland, Israel, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sweden

57/78: A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 H of 15 December 1994, 50/70 C of 12 December 1995, 51/45 G of 10 December 1996, 52/38 K of 9 December 1997, 53/77 U of 4 December 1998, 54/54 D of 1 December 1999, 55/33 R of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 N of 29 November 2001,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international peace and security and the promotion of nuclear disarmament mutually complement and strengthen each other,

Reaffirming the crucial importance of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[144] as the cornerstone of the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation and as an essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament, and welcoming Cuba's accession to the Treaty,

Recognizing the progress made by the nuclear-weapon States in the reduction of their nuclear weapons unilaterally or through their negotiations, including the completion of the reductions of strategic offensive weapons according to the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I)[145] and the recent signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") by the United States of America and the Russian Federation,[146] which should serve as a step for further nuclear disarmament, and the efforts for nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation by the international community,

Reaffirming the conviction that further advancement in nuclear disarmament will contribute to consolidating the international regime for nuclear non-proliferation, ensuring international peace and security,

Welcoming the continuation of a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions since the recent nuclear tests,

Welcoming also the successful adoption of the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[147] and stressing the importance of implementing its conclusions,

Welcoming further the constructive start of the strengthened review process at the first session, held in New York from 8 to 19 April 2002, of the Preparatory Committee for the Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to be held in 2005,

Welcoming the successful convening of a series of seminars aiming at further reinforcement of International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards in Latin America, Central Asia, Africa and the Asia-Pacific region, and sharing the hope that the conference to be held in Tokyo in December 2002 will further strengthen the International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards system, including universalization of its safeguards agreements and the additional protocols thereto, by making utmost use of the outcomes of the aforementioned seminars,

Encouraging the Russian Federation and the United States of America to continue their intensive consultations in accordance with the Joint Declaration on the New Strategic Relationship between the two States,[146]

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, convened in New York from 11 to 13 November 2001[148] in accordance with article XIV of the Treaty,[149]

Recognizing the importance of preventing terrorists from acquiring or developing nuclear weapons or related materials, radioactive materials, equipment and technology,

Stressing the importance of education on disarmament and non-proliferation for future generations, and noting with satisfaction the submission of the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on this issue by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly,[150]

1. *Reaffirms* the importance of achieving the universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[144] and calls upon States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it as non-nuclear-weapon States without delay and without conditions;

2. *Also reaffirms* the importance for all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to fulfil their obligations under the Treaty;

3. *Stresses* the central importance of the following practical steps for the systematic and progressive efforts to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and paragraphs 3 and 4 (*c*) of the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and

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[144] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[145] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16:1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[146] See CD/1674.

[147] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vols. I–III (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I–IV)).

[148] CTBT-ART.XIV/2001/6, annex.

[149] See resolution 50/245.

[150] A/57/124.

disarmament of the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty:[151]

(*a*) The importance and urgency of signatures and ratifications, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty[149] as well as a moratorium on nuclear-weapon-test explosions or any other nuclear explosions pending the entry into force of that Treaty;

(*b*) The establishment of an ad hoc committee in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2003 session to negotiate a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, in accordance with the report of the Special Coordinator of 1995[152] and the mandate contained therein, taking into consideration both nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation objectives, with a view to its conclusion within five years and, pending its entry into force, a moratorium on the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons;

(*c*) The establishment of an appropriate subsidiary body with a mandate to deal with nuclear disarmament in the Conference on Disarmament as early as possible during its 2003 session in the context of establishing a programme of work;

(*d*) The inclusion of the principle of irreversibility to apply to nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

(*e*) An unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, as agreed at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals, leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties to the Treaty are committed under article VI of the Treaty;

(*f*) Deep reductions by the Russian Federation and the United States of America in their strategic offensive arsenals, while placing great importance on the existing multilateral treaties, with a view to maintaining and strengthening strategic stability and international security;

(*g*) Steps by all the nuclear-weapon States leading to nuclear disarmament in a way that promotes international stability, and based on the principle of undiminished security for all:

(i) Further efforts by all the nuclear-weapon States to continue to reduce their nuclear arsenals unilaterally;

(ii) Increased transparency by the nuclear-weapon States with regard to their nuclear weapons capabilities and the implementation of agreements pursuant to article VI of the Treaty and as voluntary confidence-building measures to support further progress on nuclear disarmament;

(iii) The further reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

(iv) Concrete agreed measures to reduce further the operational status of nuclear weapons systems;

(v) A diminishing role for nuclear weapons in security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

(vi) The engagement, as soon as appropriate, of all the nuclear-weapon States in the process leading to the total elimination of their nuclear weapons;

(*h*) Reaffirmation that the ultimate objective of the efforts of States in the disarmament process is general and complete disarmament under effective international control;

4. *Recognizes* that the realization of a world free of nuclear weapons will require further steps, including deeper reductions by all the nuclear-weapon States in the process of working towards achieving their elimination;

5. *Invites* the nuclear-weapon States to keep the Members of the United Nations duly informed of the progress or efforts made towards nuclear disarmament;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of a successful Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in 2005 as the second session of the Preparatory Committee will be convened in 2003;

7. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts in the dismantlement of nuclear weapons, notes the importance of the safe and effective management of the resultant fissile materials, and calls for arrangements by all the nuclear-weapon States to place, as soon as practicable, fissile material designated by each of them as no longer required for military purposes under International Atomic Energy Agency or other relevant international verification and arrangements for the disposition of such material for peaceful purposes to ensure that such material remains permanently outside of military programmes;

8. *Stresses* the importance of further development of the verification capabilities, including International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, that will be required to provide assurance of compliance with nuclear disarmament agreements for the achievement and maintenance of a nuclear-weapon-free world;

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[151] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[152] CD/1299.

9. *Calls upon* all States to redouble their efforts to prevent and curb the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, confirming and strengthening, if necessary, their policies not to transfer equipment, materials or technology that could contribute to the proliferation of those weapons, while ensuring that such policies are consistent with the obligations of States under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;

10. *Also calls upon* all States to maintain the highest possible standards of security, safe custody, effective control and physical protection of all materials that could contribute to the proliferation of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction in order, inter alia, to prevent those materials from falling into the hands of terrorists;

11. *Welcomes* the adoption of resolution GC(46)/RES/12 on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency,[153] and stresses the importance of the said resolution, in which it is recommended that the Director General, the Board of Governors and member States of the Agency continue to consider implementing the elements of the plan of action outlined in resolution GC(44)/RES/19, adopted on 22 September 2000 by the General Conference of the Agency,[154] to promote and facilitate the conclusion and entry into force of safeguards agreements and additional protocols, and calls for the early and full implementation of that resolution;

12. *Encourages* the constructive role played by civil society in promoting nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament.

RESOLUTION 57/79

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[155] by a recorded vote of 107 to 41, with 21 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cyprus, Georgia, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mauritius, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Sweden, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

57/79. Nuclear disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/75 E of 15 December 1994 on a step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat, and its resolutions 50/70 P of 12 December 1995, 51/45 O of 10 December 1996, 52/38 L of 9 December 1997, 53/77 X of 4 December 1998, 54/54 P of 1 December 1999, 55/33 T of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 R of 29 November 2001 on nuclear disarmament,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Bearing in mind that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1972[156] and the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction of 1993[157] have already established legal regimes on the complete prohibition of biological and chemical weapons, respectively, and determined to achieve a nuclear weapons convention on the prohibition of the development, testing, production, stockpiling, loan transfer, use and threat of use of nuclear weapons and on their destruction, and to conclude such an international convention at an early date,

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[153] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC (2002)).

[154] Ibid., *Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC (2000)).

[155] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Thailand, Tonga, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[156] Resolution 2826 (XXVI), annex.

[157] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

Recognizing that there now exist conditions for the establishment of a world free of nuclear weapons, and stressing the need to take concrete practical steps towards achieving this goal,

Bearing in mind paragraph 50 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[158] the first special session devoted to disarmament, calling for the urgent negotiation of agreements for the cessation of the qualitative improvement and development of nuclear-weapon systems, and for a comprehensive and phased programme with agreed time frames, wherever feasible, for the progressive and balanced reduction of nuclear weapons and their means of delivery, leading to their ultimate and complete elimination at the earliest possible time,

Noting the reiteration by the States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[159] of their conviction that the Treaty is a cornerstone of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament and the reaffirmation by the States parties of the importance of the decision on strengthening the review process for the Treaty,[160] the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament,[160] the decision on the extension of the Treaty[160] and the resolution on the Middle East,[160] adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly and by the international community,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Treaty on the Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms (START I),[161] to which Belarus, Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and the United States of America are States parties,

Reiterating its call for an early entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[162]

Noting with appreciation the signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty") by the United States of America and the Russian Federation[163] as a significant step towards reducing their deployed strategic nuclear weapons, while calling for further irreversible deep cuts in their nuclear arsenals,

Noting with appreciation also the unilateral meas
taken by the nuclear-weapon States for nuclear arms limitat
and encouraging them to take further such measures,

Recognizing the complementarity of bilateral, plurilat
and multilateral negotiations on nuclear disarmament, and
bilateral negotiations can never replace multilateral negotiat
in this respect,

Noting the support expressed in the Conference
Disarmament and in the General Assembly for the elabora
of an international convention to assure non-nuclear-wea
States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,
the multilateral efforts in the Conference on Disarmamen
reach agreement on such an international convention at an e
date,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International C
of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuc*
Weapons, issued on 8 July 1996,[164] and welcoming
unanimous reaffirmation by all Judges of the Court that t
exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith
bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuc
disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effec
international control,

Mindful of paragraph 114 and other rele
recommendations in the Final Document of the Tw
Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Ali
Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 Augu
3 September 1998,[165] calling upon the Conference
Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad
committee to commence negotiations in 1998 on a ph
programme of nuclear disarmament and for the eve
elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framewo
time,

Recalling paragraph 72 of the Final Document o
Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of
Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8
9 April 2000,[166]

Bearing in mind the principles and guidelines on
establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones, adopted by
Disarmament Commission at its substantive session of 199

Welcoming the United Nations Millenn
Declaration,[168] in which heads of State and Government re
to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destructio

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[158] Resolution S-10/2.

[159] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[160] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[161] *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 16: 1991 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.92.IX.1), appendix II.

[162] See resolution 50/245.

[163] See CD/1674.

[164] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of N*
Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996, p. 226.

[165] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

[166] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[167] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Se*
Supplement No. 42 (A/54/42), annex I.

[168] See resolution 55/2.

particular nuclear weapons, and to keep all options open for achieving this aim, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

Reaffirming that, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, States should refrain from the use or the threat of use of nuclear weapons in settling their disputes in international relations,

Seized of the danger of the use of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, in terrorist acts and the urgent need for concerted international efforts to control and overcome it,

1. *Recognizes* that, in view of recent political developments, the time is now opportune for all the nuclear-weapon States to take effective disarmament measures with a view to achieving the elimination of these weapons;

2. *Also recognizes* that there is a genuine need to diminish the role of nuclear weapons in strategic doctrines and security policies to minimize the risk that these weapons will ever be used and to facilitate the process of their total elimination;

3. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to stop immediately the qualitative improvement, development, production and stockpiling of nuclear warheads and their delivery systems;

4. *Also urges* the nuclear-weapon States, as an interim measure, to de-alert and deactivate immediately their nuclear weapons and to take other concrete measures to reduce further the operational status of their nuclear-weapon systems;

5. *Reiterates its call upon* the nuclear-weapon States to undertake the step-by-step reduction of the nuclear threat and to carry out effective nuclear disarmament measures with a view to achieving the total elimination of these weapons;

6. *Calls upon* the nuclear-weapon States, pending the achievement of the total elimination of nuclear weapons, to agree on an internationally and legally binding instrument on a joint undertaking not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and calls upon all States to conclude an internationally and legally binding instrument on security assurances of non-use and non-threat of use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon States;

7. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to commence plurilateral negotiations among themselves at an appropriate stage on further deep reductions of nuclear weapons as an effective measure of nuclear disarmament;

8. *Underlines* the importance of applying the principle of irreversibility to the process of nuclear disarmament, nuclear and other related arms control and reduction measures;

9. *Welcomes* the positive outcome of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, held in New York from 24 April to 19 May 2000;[169]

10. *Also welcomes* the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States, in the Final Document of the Review Conference, to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, to which all States parties are committed under article VI of the Treaty,[170] and the reaffirmation by the States parties that the total elimination of nuclear weapons is the only absolute guarantee against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,[171] and calls for the full and effective implementation of the steps set out in the Final Document;

11. *Urges* the nuclear-weapon States to carry out further reductions of non-strategic nuclear weapons, based on unilateral initiatives and as an integral part of the nuclear arms reduction and disarmament process;

12. *Calls* for the immediate commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament on a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[172] and the mandate contained therein;

13. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work which includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty with a view to their conclusion within five years;

14. *Calls* for the conclusion of an international legal instrument or instruments on adequate security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States;

15. *Also calls* for the early entry into force and strict observance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[162]

16. *Expresses its regret* that the Conference on Disarmament was unable to establish an ad hoc committee on nuclear disarmament at its 2002 session, as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/24 R;

17. *Reiterates its call upon* the Conference on Disarmament to establish, on a priority basis, an ad hoc committee to deal with nuclear disarmament early in 2003 and

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[169] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)).

[170] Ibid., part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[171] Ibid., section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 2.

[172] CD/1299.

to commence negotiations on a phased programme of nuclear disarmament leading to the eventual total elimination of nuclear weapons;

18. *Calls* for the convening of an international conference on nuclear disarmament in all its aspects at an early date to identify and deal with concrete measures of nuclear disarmament;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Nuclear disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/80

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[173]

57/80. The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/75 L of 16 December 1993, 53/77 I of 4 December 1998, 55/33 Y of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 J of 29 November 2001,

Convinced that a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices would be a significant contribution to nuclear disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Recalling the 1998 report of the Conference on Disarmament, in which, inter alia, the Conference records that, in proceeding to take a decision on this matter, that decision is without prejudice to any further decisions on the establishment of further subsidiary bodies under agenda item 1 and that intensive consultations will be pursued to seek the views of the members of the Conference on Disarmament on appropriate methods and approaches for dealing with agenda item 1, taking into consideration all proposals and views in that respect,[174]

1. *Recalls* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament[174] to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an ad hoc committee which shall negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator[175] and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

2. *Urges* the Conference on Disarmament to agree on a programme of work that includes the immediate commencement of negotiations on such a treaty.

RESOLUTION 57/81

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[176]

57/81. Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/45 N of 10 December 1996, 52/38 G of 9 December 1997, 53/77 M of 4 December 1998,

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[173] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Zambia.

[174] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/53/27), para. 10.

[175] CD/1299.

[176] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

54/54 H of 1 December 1999, 55/33 G of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 P of 29 November 2001,

Convinced that a comprehensive and integrated approach towards certain practical disarmament measures often is a prerequisite to maintaining and consolidating peace and security and thus provides a basis for effective post-conflict peace-building, namely the rehabilitation and social and economic development in areas that have suffered from conflict; such measures are, inter alia, collection and responsible disposal, preferably through destruction, of weapons obtained through illicit trafficking or illicit manufacture as well as of weapons and ammunition declared by competent national authorities to be surplus to requirements, particularly with regard to small arms and light weapons, unless another form of disposition or use has been officially authorized and provided that such weapons have been duly marked and registered; confidence-building measures; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and conversion,

Noting with satisfaction that the international community is more than ever aware of the importance of such practical disarmament measures, especially with regard to the growing problems arising from the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons, which pose a threat to peace and security and reduce the prospects for economic development in many regions, particularly in post-conflict situations,

Stressing that further efforts are needed in order to develop and effectively implement programmes of practical disarmament in affected areas as part of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration measures so as to complement, on a case-by-case basis, peacekeeping and peace-building efforts,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on prevention of armed conflict,[177] which, inter alia, refers to the role which the proliferation and illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons play in the context of the build-up and sustaining of conflicts and proposes certain measures relating to those weapons that can help to prevent such conflicts,

Taking note of the statement by the President of the Security Council of 31 August 2001[178] underlining the importance of practical disarmament measures in the context of armed conflicts, and, with regard to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes, emphasizing the importance of measures to be taken to contain the security risks stemming from the use of illicit small arms and light weapons,

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General prepared with the assistance of the Group of Governmental Experts on Small Arms,[179] and in particular the recommendations contained therein, as an important contribution to the consolidation of the peace process through practical disarmament measures,

Taking into account the deliberations at the 2001 substantive session of the Disarmament Commission in Working Group II on agenda item 5, entitled "Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms",[180] and encouraging the Disarmament Commission to continue its efforts aimed at the identification of such measures,

Welcoming the Programme of Action adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[181] which should be implemented expeditiously,

1. *Stresses*, in the context of the present resolution, the particular relevance of the "Guidelines on conventional arms control/limitation and disarmament, with particular emphasis on consolidation of peace in the context of General Assembly resolution 51/45 N",[182] adopted by the Disarmament Commission by consensus at its 1999 substantive session;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures, submitted pursuant to resolution 51/45 N,[183] and once again encourages Member States, as well as regional arrangements and agencies, to lend their support to the implementation of recommendations contained therein;

3. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by the group of interested States that was formed in New York in March 1998, and invites the group to continue to analyse lessons learned from previous disarmament and peace-building projects, as well as to promote new practical disarmament measures to consolidate peace, especially as undertaken or designed by affected States themselves;

4. *Encourages* Member States, including the group of interested States, to lend their support to the Secretary-General, relevant international, regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, and non-governmental organizations in responding to requests by Member States to collect and destroy small arms and light weapons in post-conflict situations;

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[177] A/55/985-S/2001/574 and Corr.1.

[178] S/PRST/2001/21; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

[179] A/54/258.

[180] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/56/42).

[181] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[182] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/54/42), annex III.

[183] A/52/289.

5. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for his report on the implementation of resolution 56/24 P,[184] taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;[185]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of practical disarmament measures, taking into consideration the activities of the group of interested States in this regard;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures".

RESOLUTION 57/82

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[186]

57/82. Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical weapons, in particular resolution 56/24 K of 29 November 2001, adopted without a vote, in which it noted with appreciation the ongoing work to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[187]

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Noting with satisfaction that since the adoption of resolution 56/24 K, four additional States have ratified the Convention or acceded to it, bringing the total number of States parties to the Convention to one hundred and forty-seven,

1. *Emphasizes* the necessity of universal adherence to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction,[187] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention without delay;

2. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to achieve the objective and purpose of the Convention, to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for international verification of compliance with it, and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation among States parties;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in verifying compliance with the provisions of the Convention as well as in promoting the timely and efficient accomplishment of all its objectives;

4. *Also stresses* the vital importance of full and effective implementation of and compliance with all provisions of the Convention;

5. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to meet in full and on time their obligations under the Convention and to support the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons in its implementation activities;

6. *Stresses* the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities, including previously declared possessor States, should be among the States parties to the Convention, and welcomes progress to that end;

7. *Welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons within the framework of the Relationship Agreement between the United Nations and the Organization, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".

RESOLUTION 57/83

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[188]

57/83. Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the determination of the international community to combat terrorism, as evident in relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions,

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[184] A/57/210.

[185] A/57/124.

[186] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Canada and Poland.

[187] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/47/27), appendix I.

[188] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Bhutan, Colombia, Fiji, Georgia, India, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Nauru, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka and Tuvalu.

Deeply concerned by the growing risk of linkages between terrorism and weapons of mass destruction, and in particular by the fact that terrorists may seek to acquire weapons of mass destruction,

Acknowledging the consideration of issues relating to terrorism and weapons of mass destruction by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters,[189]

Taking note of resolution GC(46)/RES/13, adopted on 20 September 2002 by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency at its forty-sixth regular session,[190] and the setting up of an Advisory Group on Security in the Agency to advise the Director General on the Agency's activities relating to nuclear security,

Taking note also of the report of the Policy Working Group on the United Nations and Terrorism,[191]

Mindful of the urgent need for addressing this threat to humanity within the United Nations framework and through international cooperation,

Emphasizing that progress is urgently needed in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation in order to help maintain international peace and security and to contribute to global efforts against terrorism,

1. *Calls upon* all Member States to support international efforts to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery;

2. *Urges* all Member States to take and strengthen national measures, as appropriate, to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and materials and technologies related to their manufacture, and invites them to inform the Secretary-General, on a voluntary basis, of the measures taken in this regard;

3. *Encourages* cooperation among and between Member States and relevant regional and international organizations for strengthening national capacities in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile a report on measures already taken by international organizations on issues relating to the linkage between the fight against terrorism and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, to seek the views of Member States on additional relevant measures for tackling the global threat posed by terrorists acquiring weapons of mass destruction, and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction".

RESOLUTION 57/84

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[192] by a recorded vote of 107 to 46, with 17 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, China, Georgia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Paraguay, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

57/84. Reducing nuclear danger

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to mankind and to the survival of civilization,

Reaffirming that any use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would constitute a violation of the Charter of the United Nations,

Convinced that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects would seriously enhance the danger of nuclear war,

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[189] See A/57/335.

[190] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC (2002)).

[191] A/57/273-S/2002/875, annex.

[192] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bhutan, Cambodia, Cuba, Haiti, India, Jordan, Kenya, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Tuvalu and Zambia.

Convinced also that nuclear disarmament and the complete elimination of nuclear weapons are essential to remove the danger of nuclear war,

Considering that, until nuclear weapons cease to exist, it is imperative on the part of the nuclear-weapon States to adopt measures that assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Considering also that the hair-trigger alert of nuclear weapons carries unacceptable risks of unintentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, which would have catastrophic consequences for all mankind,

Emphasizing the imperative need to adopt measures to avoid accidental, unauthorized or unexplained incidents arising from computer anomaly or other technical malfunctions,

Conscious that limited steps relating to detargeting have been taken by the nuclear-weapon States and that further practical, realistic and mutually reinforcing steps are necessary to contribute to the improvement in the international climate for negotiations leading to the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Mindful that reduction of tensions brought about by a change in nuclear doctrines would positively impact on international peace and security and improve the conditions for the further reduction and the elimination of nuclear weapons,

Reiterating the highest priority accorded to nuclear disarmament in the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly[193] and by the international community,

Recalling that in the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*[194] it is stated that there exists an obligation for all States to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control,

Recalling also the call in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[195] to seek to eliminate the dangers posed by weapons of mass destruction and the resolve to strive for the elimination of weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons, including the possibility of convening an international conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers,

1. *Calls* for a review of nuclear doctrines and, in this context, immediate and urgent steps to reduce the risks of unintentional and accidental use of nuclear weapons;

2. *Requests* the five nuclear-weapon States to take measures towards the implementation of paragraph 1 of the present resolution;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in all its aspects and to promote nuclear disarmament, with the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 56/24 C of 29 November 2001;[196]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts and support initiatives that would contribute towards the full implementation of the seven recommendations identified in the report of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters that would significantly reduce the risk of nuclear war,[197] and also to continue to encourage Member States to endeavour to create conditions that would allow the emergence of an international consensus to hold an international conference as proposed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[195] to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Reducing nuclear danger".

RESOLUTION 57/85

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendatio of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90),[198] by a recorded vote of 117 to 30, w 24 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahamas, Bahrain, Banglades Barbados, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Fas Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Cong Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibout Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabo Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesi Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People' Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mala Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocc Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qata

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[193] Resolution S-10/2.

[194] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[195] See resolution 55/2.

[196] A/57/401.

[197] See A/56/400, para. 3.

[198] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brunei Darussalam, Burundi Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Ghana, Guatemala, Guyana, India Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Thailand, Tonga, Uruguay Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Liechtenstein, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/85. Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 49/75 K of 15 December 1994, 51/45 M of 10 December 1996, 52/38 O of 9 December 1997, 53/77 W of 4 December 1998, 54/54 Q of 1 December 1999, 55/33 X of 20 November 2000 and 56/24 S of 29 November 2001,

Convinced that the continuing existence of nuclear weapons poses a threat to all humanity and that their use would have catastrophic consequences for all life on Earth, and recognizing that the only defence against a nuclear catastrophe is the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the certainty that they will never be produced again,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to the goal of the total elimination of nuclear weapons and the creation of a nuclear-weapon-free world,

Mindful of the solemn obligations of States parties, undertaken in article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[199] particularly to pursue negotiations in good faith on effective measures relating to cessation of the nuclear-arms race at an early date and to nuclear disarmament,

Recalling the principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted at the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[200]

Emphasizing the unequivocal undertaking by the nuclear-weapon States to accomplish the total elimination of their nuclear arsenals leading to nuclear disarmament, adopted at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[201]

Recalling the adoption of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty in its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, and expressing its satisfaction at the increasing number of States that have signed and ratified the Treaty,

Recognizing with satisfaction that the Antarctic Treaty[202] and the treaties of Tlatelolco,[203] Rarotonga,[204] Bangkok[205] and Pelindaba[206] are gradually freeing the entire southern hemisphere and adjacent areas covered by those treaties from nuclear weapons,

Noting the signing of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Reductions ("the Moscow Treaty"),[207] by the United States of America and the Russian Federation on 24 May 2002, following the demise of the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems,[208] and urging them to take further steps under the Moscow Treaty as well as through bilateral arrangements or agreements and unilateral decisions towards the irreversible reduction of their nuclear arsenals,

Stressing the importance of strengthening all existing nuclear-related disarmament, arms control and reduction measures,

Recognizing the need for a multilaterally negotiated and legally binding instrument to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the threat or use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming the central role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum, and regretting the lack of progress in disarmament negotiations, particularly nuclear disarmament, in the Conference during its 2002 session,

Emphasizing the need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations on a phased programme for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons with a specified framework of time,

Expressing its deep concern at the lack of progress in the implementation of the thirteen steps to implement article VI of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons agreed to at the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[209]

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[199] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[200] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[201] *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15:6.

[202] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 402, No. 5778.

[203] Ibid., vol. 634, No. 9068.

[204] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 10:1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.86.IX.7), appendix VII.

[205] Treaty on the South-East Asia Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone.

[206] A/50/426, annex.

[207] See CD/1674.

[208] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 944, No. 13446.

Desiring to achieve the objective of a legally binding prohibition of the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, threat or use of nuclear weapons and their destruction under effective international control,

Recalling the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*, issued on 8 July 1996,[210]

Taking note of the relevant portions of the note by the Secretary-General relating to the implementation of resolution 56/24 S,[211]

1. *Underlines once again* the unanimous conclusion of the International Court of Justice that there exists an obligation to pursue in good faith and bring to a conclusion negotiations leading to nuclear disarmament in all its aspects under strict and effective international control;

2. *Calls once again upon* all States immediately to fulfil that obligation by commencing multilateral negotiations leading to an early conclusion of a nuclear weapons convention prohibiting the development, production, testing, deployment, stockpiling, transfer, threat or use of nuclear weapons and providing for their elimination;

3. *Requests* all States to inform the Secretary-General of the efforts and measures they have taken on the implementation of the present resolution and nuclear disarmament, and requests the Secretary-General to apprise the General Assembly of that information at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*".

RESOLUTION 57/86

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/510, para. 90)[212]

57/86. Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/30 of 9 December 1997 and other relevant resolutions on the question,

Recognizing the abiding concern of all Member States for maintaining respect for rights and obligations arising from treaties to which they are parties and other sources of international law,

Convinced that observance by Member States of the Charter of the United Nations, treaties to which they are parties and other sources of international law is important for the strengthening of international security,

Mindful of the fundamental importance of full implementation and strict observance of agreements and other agreed obligations on arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation by States parties if individual nations and the international community are to derive enhanced security from them,

Stressing that any violation of such agreements and other agreed obligations by States parties not only adversely affects the security of States parties but can also create security risks for other States relying on the constraints and commitments stipulated in those agreements and other agreed obligations,

Stressing also that any weakening of confidence in such agreements and other agreed obligations diminishes their contribution to global or regional security and undermines their credibility and effectiveness,

Recognizing, in this context, that full compliance by States parties with all provisions of existing agreements and the resolving of compliance concerns effectively by means consistent with such agreements and international law can, inter alia, contribute to better relations among States and the strengthening of world peace and stability,

Believing that compliance with all provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements by States parties is a matter of interest and concern to all members of the international community, and noting the role the United Nations has played and should continue to play in that regard,

Welcoming the contribution to international peace and regional security that full compliance by States parties with verification provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements provides,

Also welcoming the universal recognition of the critical importance of the question of compliance with and verification of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements, and other agreed obligations,

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[209] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VI and eighth to twelfth preambular paragraphs", para. 15.

[210] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports, 1996*, p. 226.

[211] A/57/95 and Add.1 and 2.

[212] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Malawi, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Zambia.

Recognizing, in the light of the threat of international terrorism, that it is especially important that States parties comply with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation obligations and commitments,

1. *Urges* all States parties to arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements to implement and comply with the entirety of all provisions of such agreements;

2. *Calls upon* all Member States to give serious consideration to the implications that non-compliance by States parties with any provisions of agreements in the fields of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation has for international security and stability, as well as for the prospects for progress in those fields;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to support efforts aimed at the resolution of compliance questions by means consistent with such agreements and international law, with a view to encouraging strict observance by all States parties of the provisions of arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and maintaining or restoring the integrity of such agreements;

4. *Welcomes* the role that the United Nations has played and continues to play in restoring the integrity of, and fostering negotiations on, certain arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and in the removal of threats to peace;

5. *Encourages* efforts by all States parties to pursue additional areas of cooperation, as appropriate, that can increase confidence in compliance with existing arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements and reduce the possibility of misinterpretation and misunderstanding;

6. *Notes* the contribution that effective verification procedures for arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements frequently can make in enhancing confidence in the compliance with those agreements;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "Compliance with arms limitation and disarmament and non-proliferation agreements".

RESOLUTION 57/87

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[213]

57/87. United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/25 C of 29 November 2001 regarding the maintenance and revitalization of the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament,

Recalling also the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa,[214] the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific[215] and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean,[216]

Reaffirming its decision, taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, to establish the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme, the purpose of which is to inform, educate and generate public understanding and support for the objectives of the United Nations in the field of arms control and disarmament,[217]

Bearing in mind its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989 on the regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,

Recognizing that the changes that have taken place in the world have created new opportunities as well as posed new challenges for the pursuit of disarmament and, in this regard, bearing in mind that the regional centres for peace and disarmament can contribute substantially to understanding and cooperation among States in each particular region in the areas of peace, disarmament and development,

Noting that in paragraph 146 of the Final Document of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998, the heads of State or Government welcomed the decision adopted by the General Assembly on maintaining and revitalizing the three regional centres for peace and disarmament in Nepal, Peru and Togo,[218]

1. *Reiterates* the importance of the United Nations activities at the regional level to increase the stability and security of its Member States, which could be promoted in a substantive manner by the maintenance and revitalization of the three regional centres for peace and disarmament;

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[213] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries).

[214] A/57/162.

[215] A/57/260.

[216] A/57/116.

[217] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[218] A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I.

2. *Reaffirms* that, in order to achieve positive results, it is useful for the three regional centres to carry out dissemination and educational programmes that promote regional peace and security and that are aimed at changing basic attitudes with respect to peace and security and disarmament so as to support the achievement of the principles and purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Appeals* to Member States in each region and those that are able to do so, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions to the regional centres in their respective regions to strengthen their activities and initiatives;

4. *Emphasizes* the importance of the activities of the regional branch of the Department for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary support, within existing resources, to the regional centres in carrying out their programmes of activities;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/88

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[219]

57/88. Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the United Nations and its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 43/78 H and 43/85 of 7 December 1988, 44/21 of 15 November 1989, 45/58 M of 4 December 1990, 46/37 B of 6 December 1991, 47/53 F of 15 December 1992, 48/76 A of 16 December 1993, 49/76 C of 15 December 1994, 50/71 B of 12 December 1995, 51/46 C of 10 December 1996, 52/39 B of 9 December 1997, 53/78 A of 4 December 1998, 54/55 A of 1 December 1999, 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 A of 29 November 2001,

Considering the importance and effectiveness of confidence-building measures taken at the initiative and with the participation of all States concerned and taking into account the specific characteristics of each region, since such measures can contribute to regional stability and to international peace and security,

Convinced that the resources released by disarmament, including regional disarmament, can be devoted to economic and social development and to the protection of the environment for the benefit of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Recalling the guidelines for general and complete disarmament adopted at its tenth special session, the first special session devoted to disarmament,

Convinced that development can be achieved only in a climate of peace, security and mutual confidence both within and among States,

Bearing in mind the establishment by the Secretary-General on 28 May 1992 of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, the purpose of which is to encourage arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development in the subregion,

Recalling the Brazzaville Declaration on Cooperation for Peace and Security in Central Africa,[220] the Bata Declaration for the Promotion of Lasting Democracy, Peace and Development in Central Africa,[221] and the Yaoundé Declaration on Peace, Security and Stability in Central Africa,[222]

Bearing in mind resolutions 1196 (1998) and 1197 (1998), adopted by the Security Council on 16 and 18 September 1998 respectively, following its consideration of the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[223]

Emphasizing the need to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and peacekeeping in Africa,

Recalling the decision of the fourth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee in favour of establishing, under the auspices of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on regional confidence-building measures, which deals with the activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa in the period since the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 56/25 A;[224]

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[219] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon and Rwanda.

[220] A/50/474, annex I.

[221] A/53/258-S/1998/763, annex II, appendix I.

[222] A/53/868-S/1999/303, annex II.

[223] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[224] A/57/161.

2. *Reaffirms its support* for efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at regional and subregional levels in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further peace, stability and sustainable development in the subregion;

3. *Also reaffirms its support* for the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee adopted at the organizational meeting of the Committee, held at Yaoundé from 27 to 31 July 1992;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress made by the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee in implementing the programme of activities for the period 2001–2002, in particular by:

(*a*) Holding a Subregional Conference on the Protection of Women and Children in Armed Conflict in Central Africa at Kinshasa from 14 to 16 November 2001;

(*b*) Holding a meeting of Chiefs of Staff of the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee at Libreville from 18 to 20 March 2002;

(*c*) Holding the seventeenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Kinshasa from 22 to 26 April 2002;

(*d*) Holding the subregional consultation on the theme "Parity and development: participation of the Central African woman" at Douala from 28 to 30 May 2002;

(*e*) Holding the eighteenth ministerial meeting of the Standing Advisory Committee at Bangui from 26 to 30 August 2002;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of providing the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the essential support they need to carry out the full programme of activities which they adopted at their ministerial meetings;

6. *Welcomes* the creation of a mechanism for the promotion, maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in Central Africa, to be known as the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa, by the Conference of Heads of State and Government of the member countries of the Economic Community of Central African States, held at Yaoundé on 25 February 1999, and requests the Secretary-General to give his full support to the effective realization of that important mechanism;

7. *Emphasizes* the need to make the early-warning mechanism in Central Africa operational so that it will serve, on the one hand, as an instrument for analysing and monitoring political situations in the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with a view to preventing the outbreak of future armed conflicts and, on the other hand, as a technical body through which the member States will carry out the programme of work of the Committee, adopted at its organizational meeting held at Yaoundé in 1992, and requests the Secretary-General to provide it with the assistance necessary for it to function properly;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide their full assistance for the proper functioning of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to Security Council resolution 1197 (1998), to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with the necessary support for the implementation and smooth functioning of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa and the early-warning mechanism;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to support the establishment of a network of parliamentarians with a view to the creation of a subregional parliament in Central Africa;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to provide increased assistance to the countries of Central Africa for coping with the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories;

12. *Thanks* the Secretary-General for having established the Trust Fund for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

13. *Appeals* to Member States and to governmental and non-governmental organizations to make additional voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the implementation of the programme of work of the Standing Advisory Committee;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the States members of the Standing Advisory Committee with assistance to ensure that they are able to carry on their efforts;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa".

RESOLUTION 57/89

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[225]

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[225] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States).

57/89. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/60 J of 3 December 1986, 42/39 K of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 H of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean, with headquarters in Lima,

Recalling also its resolutions 46/37 F of 9 December 1991, 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 F of 4 December 1998, 54/55 F of 1 December 1999, 55/34 E of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 E of 29 November 2001,

Underlining the revitalization of the Regional Centre, the efforts made by the Government of Peru and other countries to that end, as well as the important work done by the Director of the Centre,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[226] which concludes that the Regional Centre has continued to act as an instrument for the implementation of regional initiatives and has intensified its contribution to the coordination of United Nations efforts towards peace and security,

Noting that security and disarmament issues have always been recognized as significant topics in Latin America and the Caribbean, the first inhabited region in the world to be declared a nuclear-weapon-free zone,

Welcoming the ratification by the Government of Cuba of the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco),[227]

Welcoming also the creation of the South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation, declared by the Presidents and Heads of State of South America, in Guayaquil, Ecuador, on 27 July 2002,[228]

Bearing in mind the important role that the Regional Centre can play in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, disarmament and development at the regional level,

Also bearing in mind the importance of information, research, education and training for peace, disarmament and development in order to achieve understanding and cooperation among States,

Recognizing the need to provide the three United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament with sufficient financial resources and cooperation for the planning and implementation of their programmes of activities,

1. *Reiterates its strong support* for the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean in the promotion of United Nations activities at the regional level to strengthen peace, stability, security and development among its member States;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction and congratulates* the Regional Centre for the expansion of the vast range of activities carried out last year in the field of peace, disarmament and development, and requests the Regional Centre to take into account the proposals to be submitted by the countries of the region in promoting confidence-building measures, arms control and limitation, transparency, disarmament and development at the regional level;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the political support and financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Invites* all States of the region to continue to take part in the activities of the Regional Centre, proposing items for inclusion in its agenda, making greater and better use of the Centre's potential to meet the current challenges facing the international community and with a view to fulfilling the aims of the Charter of the United Nations in the fields of peace, disarmament and development;

5. *Recognizes* that the Regional Centre has an important role in the promotion and development of regional initiatives agreed upon by the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean in the field of weapons of mass destruction, in particular nuclear weapons, conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, as well as the relationship between disarmament and development;

6. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the relationship between disarmament and development,[229] and supports the role that the Regional Centre plays in promoting those issues in the region in pursuit of its mandate to promote economic and social development related to peace and disarmament;

7. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular the States of the Latin American and Caribbean region, and to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and to foundations, to make and increase voluntary contributions to strengthen the Regional Centre, its programme of activities and the implementation thereof;

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[226] A/57/116.

[227] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 634, No. 9068.

[228] See A/57/232, annex.

[229] A/57/167 and Add.1.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Regional Centre with all necessary support, within existing resources, so that it may carry out its programme of activities in accordance with its mandate;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean".

RESOLUTION 57/90

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[230]

57/90. United Nations Disarmament Information Programme

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision taken in 1982 at its twelfth special session, the second special session devoted to disarmament, by which the World Disarmament Campaign was launched,[231]

Bearing in mind its resolution 47/53 D of 9 December 1992, in which it decided, inter alia, that the World Disarmament Campaign should be known thereafter as the "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme" and the World Disarmament Campaign Voluntary Trust Fund as the "Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme",

Recalling its resolutions 51/46 A of 10 December 1996, 53/78 E of 4 December 1998 and 55/34 A of 20 November 2000,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme,[232]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;[232]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to make effective use of the limited resources available to him in disseminating as widely as possible, including by electronic means, information on arms limitation and disarmament to Governments, the media, non-governmental organizations, educational communities and research institutes, and in carrying out a seminar and conference programme;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the Programme, as a significant instrument in enabling all Member States to participate fully in the deliberations and negotiations on disarmament in the various United Nations bodies, and in assisting them in complying with treaties, as required, and in contributing to agreed mechanisms for transparency;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the cooperation of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and its information centres in pursuit of the objectives of the Programme;

5. *Recommends* that the Programme focus its efforts:

(*a*) To inform, to educate and to generate public understanding of the importance of multilateral action and support for it, including action by the United Nations and the Conference on Disarmament, in the field of arms limitation and disarmament, in a factual, balanced and objective manner, and, inter alia, to continue to publish in all official languages *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook* and to report on the results of the survey of users, as well as to continue to produce ad hoc publications in print and electronic form;

(*b*) To continue to maintain the Disarmament Internet web site, including frequent updates of the databases such as the *Status of Multilateral Arms Regulation and Disarmament Agreements* and the disarmament-related *Resolutions and Decisions of the General Assembly*, as a part of the United Nations web site and to produce versions of the site in as many official languages as feasible;

(*c*) To continue to intensify United Nations interaction with the public, principally non-governmental organizations and research institutes, to help further an informed debate on topical issues of arms limitation, disarmament and security;

(*d*) To continue to organize discussions on topics of interest in the field of arms limitation and disarmament with a view to broadening understanding and facilitating an exchange of views and information among Member States and civil society;

6. *Invites* all Member States to make contributions to the Voluntary Trust Fund for the United Nations Disarmament Information Programme with a view to sustaining a strong outreach programme;

7. *Takes note* of the recommendations made in the study on disarmament and non-proliferation education submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session[233]

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[230] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Barbados, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Indonesia, Liberia, Malaysia, Mexico, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines and South Africa.

[231] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session, Plenary Meetings*, 1st meeting, paras. 110 and 111.

[232] A/57/223 and Add.1.

[233] See A/57/124, sect. VIII.

and commends to the attention of the Secretary-General for implementation those recommendations relating to the United Nations, without cost to the regular budget of the Organization, and invites him to continue his support and cooperation with universities, other academic institutions and non-governmental organizations active in the education field in widening the worldwide availability of disarmament and non-proliferation education;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report covering both the implementation of the activities of the Programme by the United Nations system during the previous two years and the activities of the Programme contemplated by the system for the following two years;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations Disarmament Information Programme".

RESOLUTION 57/91

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[234]

57/91. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

The General Assembly,

Mindful of the provisions of Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Charter of the United Nations stipulating that a function of the General Assembly is to consider the general principles of cooperation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and arms limitation,

Recalling its resolutions 40/151 G of 16 December 1985, 41/60 D of 3 December 1986, 42/39 J of 30 November 1987 and 43/76 D of 7 December 1988 on the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa, and its resolutions 46/36 F of 6 December 1991 and 47/52 G of 9 December 1992 on regional disarmament, including confidence-building measures,

Recalling also its resolutions 48/76 E of 16 December 1993, 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, 50/71 C of 12 December 1995, 51/46 E of 10 December 1996, 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 53/78 C of 4 December 1998, 54/55 B of 1 December 1999, 55/34 D of 20 November 2000 and 56/25 D of 29 November 2001,

Aware of the widespread support for the revitalization of the Regional Centre and the important role that the Centre can play in the present context in promoting confidence-building and arms-limitation measures at the regional level, thereby promoting progress in the area of sustainable development,

Taking into account the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa,[235]

Taking into account also the note by the Secretary-General containing the recommendations made by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat related to the programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs, in particular those recommendations concerning the United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament in Africa, in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in Asia and the Pacific,[236]

Bearing in mind the efforts undertaken in the framework of the revitalization of the activities of the Regional Centre for the mobilization of the resources necessary for its operational costs,

Taking into account the need to establish close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution of the African Union, in conformity with the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, held at Algiers from 12 to 14 July 1999,[237]

Welcoming the adoption by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, held in New York from 9 to 20 July 2001, of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects,[238] and emphasizing the need for the appropriate implementation of the Programme of Action by all States,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[239] and commends the activities which the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa is continuing to carry out, in particular in support of the efforts made by the African States in the areas of peace and security;

2. *Reaffirms its strong support* for the revitalization of the Regional Centre, and emphasizes the need to provide it with

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[234] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

[235] A/52/871-S/1998/318.

[236] A/56/817.

[237] A/54/424, annex II, decision AHG/Dec.138 (XXXV). On 8 July 2002 the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[238] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), para. 24.

[239] A/57/162.

the necessary resources to enable it to strengthen its activities and carry out its programmes;

3. *Appeals once again* to all States, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions in order to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Regional Centre and facilitate their implementation;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the necessary support to the Regional Centre for better achievements and results;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the establishment of close cooperation between the Regional Centre and the African Union, in particular in the area of peace, security and development, and to continue to assist the Director of the Regional Centre in his efforts to stabilize the financial situation of the Centre and revitalize its activities;

6. *Appeals in particular* to the Regional Centre, in cooperation with the African Union, regional and subregional organizations and the African States, to take steps to promote the consistent implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[238]

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa".

RESOLUTION 57/92

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[240]

57/92. United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 42/39 D of 30 November 1987 and 44/117 F of 15 December 1989, by which it established the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and renamed it the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific, with headquarters in Kathmandu and with the mandate of providing, on request, substantive support for the initiatives and other activities mutually agreed upon by the Member States of the Asia-Pacific region for the implementation of measures for peace and disarmament, through appropriate utilization of available resources,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General,[241] in which he expresses his belief that the mandate of the Regional Centre remains valid and that the Centre could be a useful instrument for fostering a climate of cooperation for peace and disarmament in the region,

Noting that trends in the post-cold-war era have emphasized the function of the Regional Centre in assisting Member States as they deal with new security concerns and disarmament issues emerging in the region,

Commending the useful activities carried out by the Regional Centre in encouraging regional and subregional dialogue for the enhancement of openness, transparency and confidence-building, as well as the promotion of disarmament and security through the organization of regional meetings, which has come to be widely known within the Asia-Pacific region as the "Kathmandu process",

Expressing its appreciation to the Regional Centre for its organization of the eighth Kanazawa symposium on north-east Asia, on the theme "Security outlook in north-east Asia and new agenda for the Kanazawa process", held at Kanazawa, Japan, from 4 to 6 June 2002, and the Fifth United Nations Conference on Disarmament Issues, on the theme "The challenge of terrorism for international security and disarmament: global and regional impact", held at Kyoto, Japan, from 7 to 9 August 2002,

Welcoming the idea of the possible creation of an educational and training programme for peace and disarmament in Asia and the Pacific for young people with different backgrounds, to be financed from voluntary contributions,

Noting the important role of the Regional Centre in assisting region-specific initiatives of Member States, including its assistance in the work related to the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia, as well as to Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status, including the organization of a United Nations-sponsored non-governmental expert group meeting on the theme "Ways and means of strengthening Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status", held at Sapporo, Japan, on 5 and 6 September 2001,

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[240] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Maldives, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Tonga, Vanuatu and Viet Nam.

[241] A/57/260.

Appreciating highly the overall support that Nepal has extended as the host nation of the headquarters of the Regional Centre,

1. *Reaffirms* its strong support for the forthcoming operation and further strengthening of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

2. *Underlines* the importance of the Kathmandu process as a powerful vehicle for the development of the practice of region-wide security and disarmament dialogue;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing political support and voluntary financial contributions to the Regional Centre, which are essential for its continued operation;

4. *Appeals* to Member States, in particular those within the Asia-Pacific region, as well as to international governmental and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to make voluntary contributions, the only resources of the Regional Centre, to strengthen the programme of activities of the Centre and the implementation thereof;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking note of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 49/76 D of 15 December 1994, to provide the Regional Centre with the necessary support, within existing resources, in carrying out its programme of activities;

6. *Urges* the Secretary-General to ensure the physical operation of the Regional Centre from Kathmandu within six months of the date of signature of the host country agreement and to enable the Centre to function effectively;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific".

RESOLUTION 57/93

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25)[242]

57/93. United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[243]

Recalling its decision, contained in paragraph 108 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[244] the first special session devoted to disarmament, to establish a programme of fellowships on disarmament, as well as its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly,[245] the second special session devoted to disarmament, in which it decided, inter alia, to continue the programme,

Noting that the programme continues to contribute significantly to developing greater awareness of the importance and benefits of disarmament and better understanding of the concerns of the international community in the field of disarmament and security, as well as to enhancing the knowledge and skills of fellows, allowing them to participate more effectively in efforts in the field of disarmament at all levels,

Noting with satisfaction that the programme has trained a large number of officials from Member States throughout its twenty-four years of existence, many of whom hold positions of responsibility in the field of disarmament within their own Governments,

Recognizing the need for Member States to take into account gender equality when nominating candidates to the programme,

Recalling all the annual resolutions on the matter since the thirty-seventh session of the General Assembly, in 1982, including resolution 50/71 A of 12 December 1995,

Believing that the forms of assistance available to Member States, in particular to developing countries, under the programme will enhance the capabilities of their officials to follow ongoing deliberations and negotiations on disarmament, both bilateral and multilateral,

1. *Reaffirms* its decisions contained in annex IV to the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly[245] and the report of the Secretary-General[246] approved by the Assembly in its resolution 33/71 E of 14 December 1978;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Government of Germany for hosting the participants of the programme since

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[242] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Ethiopia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Venezuela, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[243] A/57/168.

[244] Resolution S-10/2.

[245] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Twelfth Special Session Annexes*, agenda items 9–13, document A/S-12/32.

[246] A/33/305.

1980 and to the Government of Japan on the occasion of its twentieth annual study visit for the fellows, which includes events in Nagasaki and Hiroshima, and to the Government of the United States of America for having organized in 2001 a specific study programme in the field of disarmament, thereby contributing to the fulfilment of the overall objectives of the programme;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization and the Monterey Institute of International Studies for having organized specific study programmes in the field of disarmament in their respective areas of competence, thereby contributing to the objectives of the programme;

4. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the diligence with which the programme has continued to be carried out;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to implement annually the Geneva-based programme within existing resources and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services".

RESOLUTION 57/94

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/511, para. 25),[247] by a recorded vote of 110 to 45, with 12 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan

57/94. Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons

The General Assembly,

Convinced that the use of nuclear weapons poses the most serious threat to the survival of mankind,

Bearing in mind the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 8 July 1996 on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*,[248]

Convinced that a multilateral, universal and binding agreement prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons would contribute to the elimination of the nuclear threat and to the climate for negotiations leading to the ultimate elimination of nuclear weapons, thereby strengthening international peace and security,

Conscious that some steps taken by the Russian Federation and the United States of America towards a reduction of their nuclear weapons and the improvement in the international climate can contribute towards the goal of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons,

Recalling that, in paragraph 58 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[249] it is stated that all States should actively participate in efforts to bring about conditions in international relations among States in which a code of peaceful conduct of nations in international affairs could be agreed upon and that would preclude the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons,

Reaffirming that any use of nuclear weapons would be a violation of the Charter of the United Nations and a crime against humanity, as declared in its resolutions 1653 (XVI) of 24 November 1961, 33/71 B of 14 December 1978, 34/83 G of 11 December 1979, 35/152 D of 12 December 1980 and 36/92 I of 9 December 1981,

Determined to achieve an international convention prohibiting the development, production, stockpiling and use of nuclear weapons, leading to their ultimate destruction,

Stressing that an international convention on the prohibition of the use of nuclear weapons would be an important step in a phased programme towards the complete elimination of nuclear weapons, with a specified framework of time,

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[247] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, El Salvador, Fiji, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Namibia, Nauru, , Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Tuvalu, Viet Nam and Zambia.

[248] A/51/218, annex; see also *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons, Advisory Opinion, I.C.J. Reports 1996*, p. 226.

[249] Resolution S-10/2.

Noting with regret that the Conference on Disarmament, during its 2002 session, was unable to undertake negotiations on this subject as called for in General Assembly resolution 56/25 B of 29 November 2001,

1. *Reiterates its request* to the Conference on Disarmament to commence negotiations in order to reach agreement on an international convention prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons under any circumstances;

2. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to report to the General Assembly on the results of those negotiations.

RESOLUTION 57/95

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/512, para. 9)[250]

57/95. Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[251]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000 and 56/26 A of 29 November 2001,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in the promotion of the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

Bearing in mind its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[251]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

3. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

4. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[252] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items of its agenda, taking into account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[253]

5. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its 2003 substantive session:

(*a*) Ways and means to achieve nuclear disarmament;

(*b*) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2003, namely from 31 March to 17 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[254] together with all the official records of the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the necessary resources and services, including verbatim records, to that end;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Belarus, Czech Republic, Ghana, Italy, Kazakhstan, Morocco and Nepal.

[251] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/57/42).

[252] Resolution S-10/2.

[253] A/CN.10/137.

[254] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No.* 27 (A/57/27).

RESOLUTION 57/96

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/512, para. 9)[255]

57/96. Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[256]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues for negotiation,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the single multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Urges* the Conference to fulfil that role in the light of the evolving international situation, with a view to making early substantive progress on priority items on its agenda;

3. *Welcomes* the strong collective interest of the Conference in commencing substantive work as soon as possible during its 2003 session;

4. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Conference to request its current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all existing proposals and views presented and discussions held in the 2002 session to achieve this goal, as expressed in paragraph 43 of its report;[256]

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure the provision to the Conference of adequate administrative, substantive and conference support services;

6. *Requests* the Conference to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".

RESOLUTION 57/97

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/513, para. 7),[257] by a recorded vote of 158 to 3, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Cameroon, Canada, Ethiopia, India, Papua New Guinea, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago

57/97. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind its relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the latest of which is resolution GC(46)/RES/16, adopted on 20 September 2002,[258]

Cognizant that the proliferation of nuclear weapons in the region of the Middle East would pose a serious threat to international peace and security,

Mindful of the immediate need for placing all nuclear facilities in the region of the Middle East under full-scope safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency,

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[255] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Hungary.

[256] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/57/27).

[257] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the League of Arab States).

[258] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC(2002)).

Recalling the decision on principles and objectives for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[259] in which the Conference urged universal adherence to the Treaty as an urgent priority and called upon all States not yet parties to the Treaty to accede to it at the earliest date, particularly those States that operate unsafeguarded nuclear facilities,

Recognizing with satisfaction that, in the Final Document of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, the Conference undertook to make determined efforts towards the achievement of the goal of universality of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, and called upon those remaining States not parties to the Treaty to accede to it, thereby accepting an international legally binding commitment not to acquire nuclear weapons or nuclear explosive devices and to accept International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards on all their nuclear activities, and underlined the necessity of universal adherence to the Treaty and of strict compliance by all parties with their obligations under the Treaty,[260]

Recalling the resolution on the Middle East adopted by the 1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons on 11 May 1995,[261] in which the Conference noted with concern the continued existence in the Middle East of unsafeguarded nuclear facilities, reaffirmed the importance of the early realization of universal adherence to the Treaty and called upon all States in the Middle East that had not yet done so, without exception, to accede to the Treaty as soon as possible and to place all their nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that Israel remains the only State in the Middle East that has not yet become party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[262]

Concerned about the threats posed by the proliferation of nuclear weapons to the security and stability of the Middle East region,

Stressing the importance of taking confidence-building measures, in particular the establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the Middle East, in order to enhance peace and security in the region and to consolidate the global non-proliferation regime,

Emphasizing the need for all parties directly concerned to consider seriously taking the practical and urgent steps required for the implementation of the proposal to establish a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and, as a means of promoting this objective, inviting the countries concerned to adhere to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and, pending the establishment of the zone, to agree to place all their nuclear activities under International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards,

Noting that one hundred and sixty-six States have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty,[263] including a number of States in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the conclusions on the Middle East of the 2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons;[264]

2. *Reaffirms* the importance of Israel's accession to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons[262] and placement of all its nuclear facilities under comprehensive International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards, in realizing the goal of universal adherence to the Treaty in the Middle East;

3. *Calls upon* that State to accede to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons without further delay and not to develop, produce, test or otherwise acquire nuclear weapons, and to renounce possession of nuclear weapons, and to place all its unsafeguarded nuclear facilities under full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency safeguards as an important confidence-building measure among all States of the region and as a step towards enhancing peace and security;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East".

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[259] *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex, decision 2.

[260] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document,* vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article IX".

[261] See *1995 Review and Extension Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document, Part I* (NPT/CONF.1995/32 (Part I) and Corr.2), annex.

[262] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 729, No. 10485.

[263] See resolution 50/245.

[264] See *2000 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document,* vol. I (NPT/CONF.2000/28 (Parts I and II)), part I, section entitled "Article VII and the security of non-nuclear-weapon States", para. 16.

RESOLUTION 57/98

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/514, para. 8)[265]

57/98. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/28 of 29 November 2001 and previous resolutions referring to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[266]

Recalling with satisfaction the adoption, on 10 October 1980, of the Convention, together with the Protocol on Non-Detectable Fragments (Protocol I),[266] the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II)[266] and the Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Incendiary Weapons (Protocol III),[266] which entered into force on 2 December 1983,

Also recalling with satisfaction the adoption by the First Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects, on 13 October 1995 of the Protocol on Blinding Laser Weapons (Protocol IV),[267] and on 3 May 1996 of the amended Protocol on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby Traps and Other Devices (Protocol II),[268] which entered into force on 30 July 1998 and 3 December 1998 respectively,

Welcoming the results of the Second Review Conference of the States Parties to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects,[269] and commending the efforts of the President of the Conference,

Recalling with satisfaction the decision by the Second Review Conference, on 21 December 2001, to extend the scope of the Convention and the Protocols thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character,[269]

Recalling the decision by the Second Review Conference to commission follow-up work under the oversight of the Chairman-designate of a meeting of States parties to the Convention to be held on 12 and 13 December 2002 at Geneva in conjunction with the Fourth Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, and in this context the decision to establish an open-ended group of governmental experts with two separate coordinators on explosive remnants of war and on mines other than anti-personnel mines,[269]

Welcoming the additional ratifications and acceptances of or accessions to the Convention and to amended Protocol II and Protocol IV, as well as accessions to the amendment of article I of the Convention, adopted in 2001,[269]

Recalling the role played by the International Committee of the Red Cross in the elaboration of the Convention and the Protocols thereto,

Noting that the rules of procedure of the First Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II provide for the invitation of States not parties to the Protocol, the International Committee of the Red Cross and interested non-governmental organizations to take part in the Conference,

Welcoming the particular efforts of various international, non-governmental and other organizations in raising awareness of the humanitarian consequences of explosive remnants of war,

Welcoming also the results of the Third Annual Conference of States Parties to Amended Protocol II, held at Geneva on 10 December 2001,[270]

1. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to take all measures to become parties, as soon as possible, to the Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects[266] and the Protocols thereto, as amended, as well as the amendment of article I extending the scope of the Convention,[269] with a view to achieving the widest possible adherence to these instruments at an early date, and calls upon successor States to take appropriate measures so that ultimately adherence to these instruments will be universal;

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[265] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

[266] See *The United Nations Disarmament Yearbook*, vol. 5: 1980 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.81.IX.4), appendix VII.

[267] CCW/CONF.I/16 (Part I), annex A.

[268] Ibid., annex B.

[269] See CCW/CONF.II/2 and Corr.1, part II.

[270] See CCW/AP.II/CONF.3/4 and Corr.1 and 2, part I.

2. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to express their consent to be bound by the Protocols to the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to notify the depositary at an early date of their consent to be bound by the amendment extending the scope of the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto to include armed conflicts of a non-international character;[269]

4. *Notes* the mandate of the Second Review Conference for the establishment of a group of governmental experts with two separate coordinators to discuss ways and means to address the issue of explosive remnants of war and to explore further the issue of mines other than anti-personnel mines, respectively;

5. *Also notes* the decision by the Second Review Conference that the Chairman-designate shall undertake consultations on possible options to promote compliance with the Convention and the Protocols annexed thereto, as well as the decision to invite interested States parties to convene experts to discuss issues related to small-calibre weapons and ammunition;

6. *Expresses support* for the work conducted by the Group of Governmental Experts, and encourages the Chairman-designate and the Group to conduct work expeditiously with a view to submitting recommendations on explosive remnants of war to States parties for consideration at the earliest possible date, including on whether to proceed with negotiating a legally binding instrument or instruments on explosive remnants of war and/or other approaches, and with a view to submitting to the States parties reports on mines other than anti-personnel mines and on compliance;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to render the necessary assistance and to provide such services, including summary records, as may be required for the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention to be held on 12 and 13 December 2002, as well as for any possible continuation of work after the Meeting, should the States parties deem it appropriate;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in his capacity as depositary of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, to continue to inform the General Assembly periodically of ratifications and acceptances of and accessions to the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects".

RESOLUTION 57/99

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/515, para. 7)[271]

57/99. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, including resolution 56/29 of 29 November 2001,

Reaffirming the primary role of the Mediterranean countries in strengthening and promoting peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region,

Bearing in mind all the previous declarations and commitments, as well as all the initiatives taken by the riparian countries at the recent summits, ministerial meetings and various forums concerning the question of the Mediterranean region,

Recognizing the indivisible character of security in the Mediterranean and that the enhancement of cooperation among Mediterranean countries with a view to promoting the economic and social development of all peoples of the region will contribute significantly to stability, peace and security in the region,

Recognizing also the efforts made so far and the determination of the Mediterranean countries to intensify the process of dialogue and consultations with a view to resolving the problems existing in the Mediterranean region and to eliminating the causes of tension and the consequent threat to peace and security, and their growing awareness of the need for further joint efforts to strengthen economic, social, cultural and environmental cooperation in the region,

Recognizing further that prospects for closer Euro-Mediterranean cooperation in all spheres can be enhanced by positive developments worldwide, in particular in Europe, in the Maghreb and in the Middle East,

Reaffirming the responsibility of all States to contribute to the stability and prosperity of the Mediterranean region and their commitment to respecting the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the provisions of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning

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[271] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[272]

Noting the peace negotiations in the Middle East, which should be of a comprehensive nature and represent an appropriate framework for the peaceful settlement of contentious issues in the region,

Expressing its concern at the persistent tension and continuing military activities in parts of the Mediterranean that hinder efforts to strengthen security and cooperation in the region,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[273]

1. *Reaffirms* that security in the Mediterranean is closely linked to European security as well as to international peace and security;

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the continuing efforts by Mediterranean countries to contribute actively to the elimination of all causes of tension in the region and to the promotion of just and lasting solutions to the persistent problems of the region through peaceful means, thus ensuring the withdrawal of foreign forces of occupation and respecting the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of all countries of the Mediterranean and the right of peoples to self-determination, and therefore calls for full adherence to the principles of non-interference, non-intervention, non-use of force or threat of use of force and the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, in accordance with the Charter and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Commends* the Mediterranean countries for their efforts in meeting common challenges through coordinated overall responses, based on a spirit of multilateral partnership, towards the general objective of turning the Mediterranean basin into an area of dialogue, exchanges and cooperation, guaranteeing peace, stability and prosperity, encourages them to strengthen such efforts through, inter alia, a lasting multilateral and action-oriented cooperative dialogue among States of the region, and recognizes the role of the United Nations in promoting regional and international peace and security;

4. *Recognizes* that the elimination of the economic and social disparities in levels of development and other obstacles as well as respect and greater understanding among cultures in the Mediterranean area will contribute to enhancing peace, security and cooperation among Mediterranean countries through the existing forums;

5. *Call upon* all States of the Mediterranean region that have not yet done so to adhere to all the multilaterally negotiated legal instruments related to the field of disarmament and non-proliferation, thus creating the necessary conditions for strengthening peace and cooperation in the region;

6. *Encourages* all States of the region to favour the necessary conditions for strengthening the confidence-building measures among them by promoting genuine openness and transparency on all military matters, by participating, inter alia, in the United Nations system for the standardized reporting of military expenditures and by providing accurate data and information to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;[274]

7. *Encourages* the Mediterranean countries to strengthen further their cooperation in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, taking into account the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and in combating international crime and illicit arms transfers and illicit drug production, consumption and trafficking, which pose a serious threat to peace, security and stability in the region and therefore to the improvement of the current political, economic and social situation and which jeopardize friendly relations among States, hinder the development of international cooperation and result in the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the democratic basis of pluralistic society;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on means to strengthen security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region".

RESOLUTION 57/100

Adopted at the 57th plenary meeting, on 22 November 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/517, para. 8),[275] by a recorded vote of 164 to 1, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus,

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[272] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

[273] A/57/91.

[274] See resolution 46/36 L.

[275] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Colombia, India, Lebanon, Mauritius, Syrian Arab Republic

57/100. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of disarmament and nuclear non-proliferation,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by one hundred and sixty-six States, including forty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of ninety-six States, including thirty-one of the forty-four needed for its entry into force, among which there are three nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 55/41 of 20 November 2000,

Welcoming the Final Declaration of the Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York from 11 to 13 November 2001,[276]

1. *Stresses* the importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions and in accordance with constitutional processes, to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the States signatories to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular to its efforts to ensure that the Treaty's verification regime will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty;

3. *Urges* States to maintain their moratoria on nuclear-weapons test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, pending the entry into force of the Treaty;

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed the Treaty to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to refrain from acts that would defeat its object and purpose in the meanwhile;

5. *Urges* all States that have signed but not yet ratified the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to their earliest successful conclusion;

6. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

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[276] CTBT-ART.XIV/2001/6, annex.

III. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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RESOLUTION 57/115

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/518, para. 8)[1]

57/115. Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913 (X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, including resolution 56/50 of 10 December 2001, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Taking note with appreciation of the work of the Scientific Committee,[2]

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Noting the views expressed by Member States at its fifty-seventh session with regard to the work of the Scientific Committee,[3]

Noting with satisfaction that some Member States have expressed particular interest in becoming members of the Scientific Committee, and expressing its intention to consider the issue further at its next session,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment,

Noting with concern that, owing to insufficient resources, the Scientific Committee was not able to hold a regular session in 2002, and that, as a result, it was not able to address its new programme of work effectively,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution it has been making in the course of the past forty-seven years, since its inception, to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation, and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and invites the Scientific Committee to submit its programme of work to the General Assembly;

4. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for its future activities of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue at its next session the review of the important problems in the field of ionizing radiation and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue providing support for the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and for the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

7. *Expresses its appreciation* for the assistance rendered to the Scientific Committee by Member States, the specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency and non-governmental organizations, and invites them to increase their cooperation in this field;

8. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports;

9. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the effects of ionizing radiation in affected areas, and invites the Scientific Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

10. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about doses, effects and risks from various sources of radiation, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Scientific Committee to the General Assembly;

11. *Urges* the United Nations Environment Programme to review and strengthen the present funding of the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 56/50, so that the Committee can discharge the responsibilities and mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 46* (A/57/46).

[3] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Fourth Committee*, 10th and 11th meetings (A/C.4/57/SR.10 and 11), and corrigendum

12. *Emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States.

RESOLUTION 57/116

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/519, para. 11)[4]

57/116. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999 and 56/51 of 10 December 2001,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,[5]

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, should contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion and strengthening of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Considering that space debris is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the further development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, which contributes to international cooperation, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

Convinced of the importance of the recommendations in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III), held at Vienna from 19 to 30 July 1999,[6]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III,[7]

Convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications, in such areas as telemedicine, tele-education and Earth observation, contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, inter alia, poverty eradication,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-fifth session,[8]

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its forty-fifth session;[8]

2. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space[9] to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties as well as incorporating them in their national legislation;

3. *Notes* that, at its forty-first session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer

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[4] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Chile (on behalf of the Working Group on International Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space).

[5] Resolution 2222 (XXI), annex.

[6] See *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19–30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[7] A/57/213.

[8] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20).

[9] Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 2222 (XXI), annex); Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 2345 (XXII), annex); Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects (resolution 2777 (XXVI), annex); Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (resolution 3235 (XXIX), annex); and Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies (resolution 34/68, annex).

Space continued its work, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/51;[10]

4. *Notes with satisfaction* the successful completion of the three-year work plan[11] by the Working Group of the Legal Subcommittee concerning the review of the concept of the "launching State", and takes note of its recommendations;[12]

5. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-second session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following as regular agenda items:

(i) General exchange of views;

(ii) Status and application of the five United Nations treaties on outer space;

(iii) Information on the activities of international organizations relating to space law;

(iv) Matters relating to:

a. The definition and delimitation of outer space;

b. The character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union;

(*b*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;[13]

(ii) Examination of the preliminary draft protocol on matters specific to space assets to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment, opened for signature at Cape Town, South Africa, on 16 November 2001:

a. Considerations relating to the possibility of the United Nations serving as supervisory authority under the preliminary draft protocol;

b. Considerations relating to the relationship between the terms of the preliminary draft protocol and the rights and obligations of States under the legal regime applicable to outer space;

6. *Notes* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its forty-second session, will submit its proposals to the Committee for new items to be considered by the Subcommittee at its forty-third session, in 2004;

7. *Notes also* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (ii) above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its Working Group, which will meet for three years, from 2002 to 2004, with the terms of reference as agreed upon by the Legal Subcommittee;[14]

8. *Notes further* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (iii) above, the group of experts designated by interested Member States to identify which aspects of the report on the ethics of space policy of the World Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization might need to be studied by the Committee and to draft a report, in consultation with other international organizations and in close liaison with the World Commission, will submit its report to the Legal Subcommittee at its forty-second session;

9. *Notes* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*a*) (iv) above, the Legal Subcommittee will reconvene its working group on the item only to consider matters relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space;

10. *Notes with appreciation* that, in the context of paragraph 5 (*b*) (ii) above, the Governments of France and Italy hosted the intersessional meetings within the framework of the ad hoc consultative mechanism established in accordance with paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 56/51;

11. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee should establish a working group to consider the questions reflected in paragraphs 5 (*b*) (ii) *a* and *b* above separately;

12. *Notes* that, in accordance with the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies,[15] which were endorsed by the General Assembly in paragraph 11 of its resolution 52/56 of 10 December 1997, the Committee, at its forty-fifth session, considered the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the third term, starting in 2003, and held informal consultations on the matter;

13. *Notes also* that, in accordance with the agreement of the Committee at its forty-fifth session,[16] the Government of Austria convened and facilitated and will continue to convene and facilitate intersessional informal consultations, including the chairpersons of the regional groups, on the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the third

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[10] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), chap. II.D.

[11] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/54/20 and Corr.1), annex I, para. 3 (*b*) (iii).

[12] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), para. 169.

[13] See resolution 47/68.

[14] See A/AC.105/763 and Corr.1, para. 118, and A/AC.105/787, para. 138.

[15] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/52/20), annex I.

[16] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), para. 209.

term with a view to reaching consensus before the forty-sixth session of the Committee;

14. *Agrees* that, on the basis of agreements to be reached among the members of the Committee on the composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies for the third term, the election of the officers of the Committee for the third term should be conducted at the beginning of the forty-sixth session of the Committee;

15. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its thirty-ninth session, continued its work as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/51;[17]

16. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fortieth session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries:

(*a*) Consider the following items:

(i) General exchange of views and introduction to reports submitted on national activities;

(ii) United Nations Programme on Space Applications;

(iii) Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III);

(iv) Matters relating to remote-sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment;

(*b*) Consider the following items in accordance with the work plans adopted by the Committee:[18]

(i) Use of nuclear power sources in outer space;

(ii) Means and mechanisms for strengthening inter-agency cooperation and increasing the use of space applications and services within and among entities of the United Nations system;

(iii) Implementation of an integrated, space-based global natural disaster management system;

(iv) Space debris;

(*c*) Consider the following single issues/items for discussion:

(i) Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including, inter alia, in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs and interests of developing countries;

(ii) Mobilization of financial resources to develop capacity in space science and technology applications;

(iii) The use of space technology for the medical sciences and public health;

17. *Notes* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fortieth session will submit its proposal to the Committee for a draft provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Subcommittee, in 2004;

18. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee that the Committee on Space Research and the International Astronautical Federation, in liaison with member States, be invited to arrange a symposium on applications of satellite navigation and their benefits to developing countries, with as wide a participation as possible, to be held during the first week of the fortieth session of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee;

19. *Agrees* that, in the context of paragraphs 16 (*a*) (ii) and (iii) and 17 above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fortieth session should reconvene the Working Group of the Whole;

20. *Also agrees* that, in the context of paragraph 16 (*b*) (i) above, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fortieth session should reconvene its Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space;

21. *Invites* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to contribute to the work of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee in the context of paragraph 16 (*b*) (ii) above, and agrees that the Inter-Agency Meeting should continue to report to the Subcommittee and the Committee on the work conducted at its annual session;

22. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2003, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications;[19]

23. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 50/27 of 6 December 1995, the African regional centres for space science and technology education, in the French language and in the English language, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific continued their education programmes in 2002 and that progress has been achieved in furthering the goals of the Network of Space Science and Technology Education and Research Institutions of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and in establishing the

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[17] Ibid., chap. II.C.

[18] See A/AC.105/697 and Corr.1, annex III, appendix, for the work plan for item (i); A/AC.105/736, annex II, paras. 40 and 41, for items (ii) and (iii), respectively; and A/AC.105/761, para. 130, for item (iv).

[19] See A/AC.105/773, sects. II–IV.

regional centres for space science and technology education in Latin America and the Caribbean, as a result of the substantive progress achieved during the meetings held in Mexico and Brazil in 2002, as well as in Western Asia;

24. *Recognizes* the agreement reached at the Space Conferences of the Americas for the Latin American countries as a mechanism to promote cooperation and coordination in space activities in the region, notes with satisfaction the success of the Fourth Space Conference of the Americas, held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 17 May 2002, which adopted the Declaration of Cartagena de Indias and the Plan of Action,[20] and encourages other regions to convene periodically regional conferences with a view to achieving convergence of positions on issues of common concern in the field of the peaceful uses of outer space among States Members of the United Nations;

25. *Urges* all Governments, entities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental entities conducting space-related activities to take the necessary action for the effective implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular its resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development",[6] and requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

26. *Notes with satisfaction* the work conducted by the eleven action teams that the Committee had established at its forty-fourth session under the voluntary leadership of Member States to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III, and agrees that Member States should provide full support to the action teams in conducting their work;[21]

27. *Agrees* that, in accordance with paragraph 30 of General Assembly resolution 55/122 of 8 December 2000, the Committee should include in the agendas of its forty-sixth and forty-seventh sessions an item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III;

28. *Notes with satisfaction* that the Committee has started to prepare a report under the agenda item on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III for submission to the General Assembly, so that the Assembly may review and appraise, at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, in accordance with paragraph 16 of its resolution 54/68, the implementation of the outcome of UNISPACE III and consider further actions and initiatives, and agrees that, in this context, the Working Group established by the Committee to prepare the above-mentioned report should be reconvened at the forty-sixth session of the Committee;

29. *Agrees* that the review by the General Assembly of the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III should be conducted in plenary meetings at the fifty-ninth session of the Assembly, under a separate agenda item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space", in addition to the item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space";

30. *Urges* all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications to support activities to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III, in particular the priority project proposals as recommended by the Committee at its forty-third session;[22]

31. *Recommends* that more attention be paid and political support be provided to all matters relating to the protection and the preservation of the outer space environment, especially those potentially affecting the Earth's environment;

32. *Considers* that it is essential that Member States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

33. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

34. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including mitigation of the consequences of disasters, in particular in the developing countries;

35. *Agrees* that the benefits of space technology and its applications should be prominently brought to the attention of conferences organized within the United Nations system to address global issues relating to social, economic and cultural development and that the use of space technology should

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[20] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), annex II.

[21] Ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), paras. 50 and 55; and ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/57/20), paras. 42 and 43.

[22] Ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 20* (A/55/20), para. 87.

be promoted towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[23]

36. *Notes* that the Government of Chile has offered to host an international conference on biotechnology in 2003 to promote the use of space technology in enhancing food security, as part of the contributions to the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;

37. *Notes with satisfaction* the efforts made by the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee as well as the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat and the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities to bring the benefits of space science and technology and their applications to the attention of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;

38. *Urges* entities of the United Nations system, particularly those participating in the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, to examine, in cooperation with the Committee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to the implementation of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[24] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[25]

39. *Takes note* of Algeria's interest in and contributions to the work of the Committee and of its request to become a member of the Committee, as well as of the support for that request expressed by the Group of 77 and other regional groups and Member States, and decides, on an exceptional basis, to accept its membership in accordance with paragraph 41 of General Assembly resolution 56/51;

40. *Welcomes* the interest of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in membership in the Committee and the endorsement of its candidature by the Group of African States, and requests the Committee to continue the consideration of the matter constructively during its next session, taking into account the principle of consensus;

41. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites and to the Spaceweek International Association;

42. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

43. *Also requests* the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-sixth session, the item entitled "Spin-off benefits of space technology: review of current status";

44. *Further requests* the Committee to continue to consider, at its forty-sixth session, the item entitled "Space and society";

45. *Commends* the International Satellite System for Search and Rescue on its achievements during its twenty years of service to the global community in using space technology to assist aviators and mariners in distress around the globe;

46. *Agrees* that the Committee should continue to consider a report on the activities of the System as a part of its consideration of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications under the item entitled "Report of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee", and invites Member States to report on their activities regarding the System;

47. *Invites* the Committee to expand the scope of international cooperation relating to the social, economic, ethical and human dimension in space science and technology applications;

48. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other international organizations to continue and, where appropriate, enhance their cooperation with the Committee and to provide it with progress reports on their work relating to the peaceful uses of outer space;

49. *Requests* the Committee to consider and identify new mechanisms of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space, in accordance with the preamble to the present resolution, and to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, including its views on which subjects should be studied in the future.

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As a result of the decision taken by the General Assembly in paragraph 39 of the above resolution, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space is composed of the following sixty-five Member States: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

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[23] See resolution 55/2.

[24] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[25] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

RESOLUTION 57/117

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[26] by a recorded vote of 158 to 1, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Honduras, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

57/117. Assistance to Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 194 (III) of 11 December 1948 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question, including resolution 56/52 of 10 December 2001,

Recalling also its resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949, by which, inter alia, it established the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,

Recalling further relevant Security Council resolutions,

Aware of the fact that the Palestine refugees have, for more than five decades, lost their homes, lands and means of livelihood,

Affirming the imperative of resolving the problem of the Palestine refugees for the achievement of justice and for the achievement of lasting peace in the region,

Acknowledging the essential role that the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East has played for more than fifty years since its establishment in ameliorating the plight of the Palestine refugees in the fields of education, health and relief and social services,

Taking note of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[27]

Aware of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout all the fields of operation, namely the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Expressing grave concern at the especially difficult situation of the Palestine refugees under occupation, including with regard to their safety, well-being and living conditions, and the continuous deterioration of those conditions during the recent period,

Noting the signing of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements on 13 September 1993 by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[28] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Aware that the Multilateral Working Group on Refugees of the Middle East peace process has an important role to play in the peace process,

1. *Notes with regret* that repatriation or compensation of the refugees, as provided for in paragraph 11 of its resolution 194 (III), has not yet been effected and that, therefore, the situation of the Palestine refugees continues to be a matter of concern;

2. *Also notes with regret* that the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine has been unable to find a means of achieving progress in the implementation of paragraph 11 of General Assembly resolution 194 (III), and requests the Commission to exert continued efforts towards the implementation of that paragraph and to report to the Assembly as appropriate, but no later than 1 September 2003;

3. *Affirms* the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its operation and services for the well-being of the Palestine

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kuwait, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Palestine.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[28] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees;

4. *Calls upon* all donors to continue to make the most generous efforts possible to meet the anticipated needs of the Agency, including those mentioned in recent emergency appeals.

RESOLUTION 57/118

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23)[29]

57/118. Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2656 (XXV) of 7 December 1970, 2728 (XXV) of 15 December 1970, 2791 (XXVI) of 6 December 1971, 56/53 of 10 December 2001 and the previous resolutions on this question,

Recalling also its decision 36/462 of 16 March 1982, by which it took note of the special report of the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[30]

Having considered the report of the Working Group,[31]

Taking into account the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[32]

Deeply concerned about the continuing financial situation of the Agency, which has affected and affects the continuing provision of necessary Agency services to Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related and humanitarian programmes,

Emphasizing the continuing need for extraordinary efforts in order to maintain, at least at the current level, the activities of the Agency, as well as to enable the Agency to carry out essential construction,

1. *Commends* the Working Group on the Financing of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East for its efforts to assist in ensuring the financial security of the Agency;

2. *Takes note with approval* of the report of the Working Group;[31]

3. *Requests* the Working Group to continue its efforts, in cooperation with the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General, to find a solution to the financial situation of the Agency;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the necessary services and assistance to the Working Group for the conduct of its work.

RESOLUTION 57/119

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[33] by a recorded vote of 155 to 5, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands

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[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Palestine.

[30] A/36/866 and Corr.1; see also A/37/591.

[31] A/57/462.

[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

57/119. Persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 2252 (ES-V) of 4 July 1967, 2341 B (XXII) of 19 December 1967 and all subsequent related resolutions,

Recalling also Security Council resolutions 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967 and 259 (1968) of 27 September 1968,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 56/54 of 10 December 2001,[34]

Taking note also of the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[35]

Concerned about the continuing human suffering resulting from the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities,

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993[36] with regard to the modalities for the admission of persons displaced in 1967, and concerned that the process agreed upon has not yet been effected,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of all persons displaced as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities to return to their homes or former places of residence in the territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Expresses deep concern* that the mechanism agreed upon by the parties in article XII of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 1993[36] on the return of displaced persons has not been effected, and stresses the necessity for an accelerated return of displaced persons;

3. *Endorses*, in the meanwhile, the efforts of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East to continue to provide humanitarian assistance, as far as practicable, on an emergency basis and as a temporary measure, to persons in the area who are currently displaced and in serious need of continuing assistance as a result of the June 1967 and subsequent hostilities;

4. *Strongly appeals* to all Governments and to organizations and individuals to contribute generously to the Agency and to the other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned for the above-mentioned purposes;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, after consulting with the Commissioner-General, to report to the General Assembly before its fifty-eighth session on the progress made with regard to the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/120

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[37] by a recorded vote of 164 to none, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Israel

57/120. Offers by Member States of grants and scholarships for higher education, including vocational training, for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 212 (III) of 19 November 1948 on assistance to Palestine refugees,

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[34] A/57/338.

[35] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[36] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Recalling also its resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980 and all subsequent relevant resolutions, including resolution 56/55 of 10 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[38]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[39]

Expressing its appreciation to all Governments, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations that responded favourably to its resolutions on this question,

1. *Reiterates its previous appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to augment the special allocations for grants and scholarships to Palestine refugees, in addition to their contributions to the regular budget of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

2. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and other international bodies to extend assistance for higher education to Palestine refugee students and to contribute towards the establishment of vocational training centres for Palestine refugees, and requests the Agency to act as the recipient and trustee for the special allocations for grants and scholarships;

3. *Appeals* to all States, specialized agencies and the United Nations University to contribute generously to the Palestinian universities in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967, including, in due course, the proposed University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/121

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[40] by a recorded vote of 155 to 5, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

57/121. Operations of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 212 (III) of 19 November 1948, 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 and all subsequent related resolutions, including resolution 56/56 of 10 December 2001,

Recalling also the relevant Security Council resolutions,

Having considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[41]

Taking note of the letter dated 26 September 2002 from the Chairperson of the Advisory Commission of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East addressed to the Commissioner-General,[42]

Recalling Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[43]

Affirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[44] to the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem,

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[38] A/57/282.

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[41] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[42] Ibid., p. viii.

[43] Resolution 22 A (I).

[44] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Aware of the continuing needs of Palestine refugees throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory and in the other fields of operation, namely in Lebanon, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic,

Also aware of the valuable work done by the refugee affairs officers of the Agency in providing protection to the Palestinian people, in particular Palestine refugees,

Gravely concerned about the increased suffering of the Palestine refugees, including the loss of life, injury and destruction and damage to refugee shelters and properties, during the recent tragic events in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern about the recent events that have occurred in the Jenin refugee camp, including the loss of life, injury, destruction and displacement inflicted on many of its civilian inhabitants,

Gravely concerned about the safety of the staff and the damage to the facilities of the Agency as a result of Israeli military operations during the reporting period,

Expressing deep concern about the policies of closure and severe restrictions, including in particular the curfews, imposed on the movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which have had a grave impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestine refugees and have greatly contributed to the dire humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people,

Deeply concerned about the continuing restrictions on the freedom of movement of the Agency's staff, vehicles and goods, including the harassment of personnel, which adversely affect the ability of the Agency to provide its services, including its educational, health and relief and social services,

Deeply concerned also about the continuing critical financial situation of the Agency and its effect on the continuing provision of necessary Agency services to the Palestine refugees, including the emergency-related programmes,

Recalling the signing, on 13 September 1993, of the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization[45] and the subsequent implementation agreements,

Aware of the agreement between the Agency and the Government of Israel,

Aware also of the establishment of a working relationship between the Advisory Commission of the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization in accordance with General Assembly decision 48/417 of 10 December 1993,

Taking note of the agreement reached on 24 June 1994, embodied in an exchange of letters between the Agency and the Palestine Liberation Organization,[46]

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, as well as to all of the staff of the Agency, for their tireless efforts and valuable work, particularly in the light of the increasingly difficult conditions throughout the past year;

2. *Also expresses its appreciation* to the Advisory Commission of the Agency, and requests it to continue its efforts and to keep the General Assembly informed of its activities, including the full implementation of decision 48/417;

3. *Commends* the efforts of the Commissioner-General to increase the budgetary transparency and efficiency of the Agency;

4. *Acknowledges* the support of the host Governments for the Agency in the discharge of its duties;

5. *Takes note* of the functioning of the headquarters of the Agency in Gaza City on the basis of the Headquarters Agreement between the Agency and the Palestinian Authority;

6. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;[44]

7. *Also calls upon* Israel to abide by Articles 100, 104 and 105 of the Charter of the United Nations and the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations[43] with regard to the safety of the personnel of the Agency, the protection of its institutions and the safeguarding of the security of the facilities of the Agency in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

8. *Urges* the Government of Israel to compensate the Agency for damage to its property and facilities resulting from actions by the Israeli side, particularly during the reporting period;

9. *Calls upon* Israel particularly to cease obstructing the movement of the personnel, vehicles and supplies of the Agency and to cease the levying of extra fees and charges, which have a detrimental effect on the Agency's operations;

10. *Requests* the Commissioner-General to proceed with the issuance of identification cards for Palestine refugees and their descendants in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

11. *Notes* that the functioning of the Agency remains essential in all fields of operation;

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[45] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[46] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/49/13), annex I.

12. *Notes also* the success of the Agency's microfinance and enterprise programmes, and calls upon the Agency, in close cooperation with the relevant agencies, to continue to contribute towards the development of the economic and social stability of the Palestine refugees;

13. *Reiterates its request* to the Commissioner-General to proceed with the modernization of the archives of the Agency and to indicate the progress made in that regard in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

14. *Urges* all States, specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to continue and to increase their contributions to the Agency so as to ease the ongoing financial constraints, which have been exacerbated by the current humanitarian situation on the ground, and to support the Agency's valuable work in providing assistance to the Palestine refugees.

RESOLUTION 57/122

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[47] by a recorded vote of 159 to 5, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Solomon Islands

57/122. Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 194 (III) of 11 December 1948, 36/146 C of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the question,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of its resolution 56/57 of 10 December 2001,[48]

Taking note also of the report of the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine for the period from 1 September 2001 to 31 August 2002,[49]

Recalling that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[50] and the principles of international law uphold the principle that no one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his or her property,

Recalling in particular its resolution 394 (V) of 14 December 1950, in which it directed the Conciliation Commission, in consultation with the parties concerned, to prescribe measures for the protection of the rights, property and interests of the Palestine refugees,

Noting the completion of the programme of identification and evaluation of Arab property, as announced by the Conciliation Commission in its twenty-second progress report,[51] and the fact that the Land Office had a schedule of Arab owners and file of documents defining the location, area and other particulars of Arab property,

Expressing its appreciation for the work done to preserve and modernize the existing records, including the land records, of the Conciliation Commission and the importance of such records for a just resolution of the plight of the Palestine refugees in conformity with General Assembly resolution 194 (III),

Recalling that, in the framework of the Middle East peace process, the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Government of Israel agreed, in the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993,[52] to commence negotiations on permanent status issues, including the important issue of the refugees,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Palestine refugees are entitled to their property and to the income derived therefrom, in conformity with the principles of equity and justice;

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[47] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[48] A/57/455.

[49] A/57/294, annex.

[50] Resolution 217 A (III).

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Nineteenth Session, Annexes*, Annex No. 11, document A/5700.

[52] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel to render all facilities and assistance to the Secretary-General in the implementation of the present resolution;

4. *Calls upon* all the parties concerned to provide the Secretary-General with any pertinent information in their possession concerning Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel that would assist him in the implementation of the present resolution;

5. *Urges* the Palestinian and Israeli sides, as agreed between them, to deal with the important issue of Palestine refugees' properties and their revenues in the framework of the final status negotiations of the Middle East peace process;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/123

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/520, para. 23),[53] by a recorded vote of 155 to 5, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

57/123. University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds" for Palestine refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 36/146 G of 16 December 1981 and all its subsequent resolutions on the issue, including resolution 56/58 of 10 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[54]

Having also considered the report of the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East covering the period from 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002,[55]

1. *Emphasizes* the need for strengthening the educational system in the Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 5 June 1967, including Jerusalem, and specifically the need for the establishment of the proposed university;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all necessary measures for establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds", in accordance with General Assembly resolution 35/13 B of 3 November 1980, giving due consideration to the recommendations consistent with the provisions of that resolution;

3. *Calls once again upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cooperate in the implementation of the present resolution and to remove the hindrances that it has put in the way of establishing the University of Jerusalem "Al-Quds";

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/124

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/521, para. 24),[56] by a recorded vote of 86 to 6, with 66 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina

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[53] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[54] A/57/456.

[55] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 13* (A/57/13).

[56] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ghana, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

57/124. Work of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[57] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[58] and the International Covenants on Human Rights,[59]

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2443 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968 and 56/59 of 10 December 2001, and the relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

Recalling also relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Convinced that occupation itself represents a gross and grave violation of human rights,

Gravely concerned about the continuation of the tragic events that have occurred since 28 September 2000, including the excessive use of force by the Israeli occupying forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in thousands of deaths and injuries,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[60] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[61]

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[62] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Expressing the hope that the Israeli occupation will be brought to an early end and that therefore the violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people will cease,

1. *Commends* the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories for its efforts in performing the tasks assigned to it by the General Assembly and for its impartiality;

2. *Reiterates its demand* that Israel, the occupying Power, cooperate with the Special Committee in implementing its mandate;

3. *Deplores* those policies and practices of Israel that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people and other Arabs of the occupied territories, as reflected in the reports of the Special Committee covering the reporting period;

4. *Expresses grave concern* about the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as a result of Israeli practices and measures, and especially condemns the excessive and indiscriminate use of force since 28 September 2000, which has resulted in almost two thousand Palestinian deaths and tens of thousands of injuries;

5. *Requests* the Special Committee, pending complete termination of the Israeli occupation, to continue to investigate Israeli policies and practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, especially Israeli violations of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[57] and to consult, as appropriate, with the International Committee of the Red Cross according to its regulations in order to ensure that the welfare and human rights of the peoples of the occupied territories are safeguarded and to report to the Secretary-General as soon as possible and whenever the need arises thereafter;

6. *Also requests* the Special Committee to submit regularly to the Secretary-General periodic reports on the

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[57] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[58] Resolution 217 A (III).

[59] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[60] See A/57/207 and A/57/421.

[61] A/57/314–318.

[62] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

current situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem;

7. *Further requests* the Special Committee to continue to investigate the treatment of prisoners and detainees in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide the Special Committee with all necessary facilities, including those required for its visits to the occupied territories, so that it may investigate Israeli policies and practices referred to in the present resolution;

(*b*) To continue to make available such additional staff as may be necessary to assist the Special Committee in the performance of its tasks;

(*c*) To circulate regularly to Member States the periodic reports mentioned in paragraph 6 above;

(*d*) To ensure the widest circulation of the reports of the Special Committee and of information regarding its activities and findings, by all means available, through the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and, where necessary, to reprint those reports of the Special Committee that are no longer available;

(*e*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the tasks entrusted to him in the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories".

RESOLUTION 57/125

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/521, para. 24),[63] by a recorded vote of 155 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

57/125. Applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949, to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the other occupied Arab territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[64] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[65]

Considering that the promotion of respect for the obligations arising from the Charter of the United Nations and other instruments and rules of international law is among the basic purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the convening of the meeting of experts of the High Contracting Parties to the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[66] at Geneva from 27 to 29 October 1998, at the initiative of the Government of Switzerland in its capacity as the depositary of the Convention, concerning general problems of application of the Convention in general and, in particular, in occupied territories,

Noting also the convening for the first time, on 15 July 1999, of a Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, as recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution ES-10/6 of 9 February 1999, on measures to enforce the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to ensure respect therefor in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[67] and aware of the statement adopted by the Conference,

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[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[64] See A/57/207 and A/57/421.

[65] A/57/314–318.

[66] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Welcoming the reconvening of the Conference of High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention at Geneva on 5 December 2001, stressing the importance of the Declaration adopted by the Conference, and underlining the need for the parties to follow up the implementation of the Declaration,

Welcoming and encouraging the initiatives by States parties to the Convention, both individually and collectively, according to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[67] aimed at ensuring respect for the Convention,

Stressing that Israel, the occupying Power, should comply strictly with its obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law,

1. *Reaffirms* that the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[66] is applicable to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

2. *Demands* that Israel accept the de jure applicability of the Convention in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967, and that it comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Convention;

3. *Calls upon* all High Contracting Parties to the Convention, in accordance with article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions,[67] to continue to exert all efforts to ensure respect for its provisions by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967;

4. *Reiterates* the need for speedy implementation of the relevant recommendations contained in the resolutions adopted at its tenth emergency special session with regard to ensuring respect by Israel, the occupying Power, for the provisions of the Convention;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/126

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/521, para. 24),[68] by a recorded vote of 154 to 6, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu

57/126. Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, as well as relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 446 (1979) of 22 March 1979, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[69] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan,

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[67] Ibid., Nos. 970–973.

[68] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[69] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Recalling the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements of 13 September 1993[70] and the subsequent implementation agreements between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Aware that Israeli settlement activities have involved, inter alia, the transfer of nationals of the occupying Power into the occupied territories, the confiscation of land, the exploitation of natural resources and other illegal actions against the Palestinian civilian population,

Bearing in mind the detrimental impact of Israeli settlement policies, decisions and activities on efforts to achieve peace in the Middle East,

Expressing grave concern about the continuation by Israel of settlement activities in violation of international humanitarian law, relevant United Nations resolutions and the agreements reached between the parties, including the ongoing construction of the settlements in Jabal Abu-Ghneim and Ras Al-Amud in and around Occupied East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned about the dangerous situation resulting from actions taken by the illegal armed Israeli settlers in the occupied territory, as illustrated in the recent period and earlier by the massacre of Palestinian worshippers by an illegal Israeli settler in Al-Khalil on 25 February 1994, and during the past year,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[71]

1. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan are illegal and an obstacle to peace and economic and social development;

2. *Calls upon* Israel to accept the de jure applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[69] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to the occupied Syrian Golan and to abide scrupulously by the provisions of the Convention, in particular article 49;

3. *Reiterates its demand* for the complete cessation of all Israeli settlement activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, including the construction of the settlement in Jabal Abu-Ghneim;

4. *Stresses* the need for full implementation of Security Council resolution 904 (1994) of 18 March 1994, in which, among other things, the Council called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to continue to take and implement measures, including confiscation of arms, with the aim of preventing illegal acts of violence by Israeli settlers, and called for measures to be taken to guarantee the safety and protection of the Palestinian civilians in the occupied territory;

5. *Reiterates its calls* for the prevention of all acts of violence by Israeli settlers, particularly in the light of recent developments;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/127

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/521, para. 24),[72] by a recorded vote of 148 to 6, with 6 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu

57/127. Israeli practices affecting the human rights of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, including those adopted at its tenth emergency special session, and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights,

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[70] A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

[71] A/57/316.

[72] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories[73] and the reports of the Secretary-General,[74]

Taking note of the report of the Human Rights Inquiry Commission established by the Commission on Human Rights[75] and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied by Israel since 1967,[76]

Aware of the responsibility of the international community to promote human rights and ensure respect for international law,

Reaffirming the principle of the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[77] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Reaffirming further the obligation of the States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention[77] under articles 146, 147 and 148 with regard to penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties,

Stressing the need for full compliance with the Israeli-Palestinian agreements reached within the context of the Middle East peace process,

Concerned about the continuing systematic violation of the human rights of the Palestinian people by Israel, the occupying Power, including the use of collective punishment, reoccupation and closure of areas, confiscation of land, establishment and expansion of settlements, destruction of property and all other actions by it designed to change the legal status, geographical nature and demographic composition of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Gravely concerned by the tragic events that have occurred since 28 September 2000 and that have led to thousands of deaths and injuries, mostly among Palestinian civilians,

Expressing deep concern about the destruction caused by the Israeli occupying forces, including the destruction of homes and properties, of religious, cultural and historical sites, of vital infrastructure and institutions of the Palestinian Authority, and of agricultural land throughout Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps,

Also expressing deep concern about the Israeli policy of closure and the severe restrictions, including curfews, imposed on the movement of persons and goods, including medical and humanitarian personnel and goods, throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people, which has resulted in a dire humanitarian crisis,

Expressing concern that thousands of Palestinians continue to be held in Israeli prisons or detention centres, and also expressing concern about their ill-treatment and harassment and reports of torture,

Convinced of the need for an international presence to monitor the situation, to contribute to ending the violence and protecting Palestinian civilians and to help the parties to implement agreements reached, and, in this regard, recalling the positive contribution of the Temporary International Presence in Hebron,

Stressing the necessity for the full implementation of all relevant Security Council resolutions,

1. *Determines* that all measures and actions taken by Israel, the occupying Power, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, in violation of the relevant provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[77] and contrary to the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, are illegal and have no validity;

2. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, comply fully with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention of 1949[77] and cease immediately all measures and actions taken in violation of the Convention, including extrajudiciary executions;

3. *Condemns* all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force by Israeli forces against Palestinian civilians, resulting in extensive loss of life, vast numbers of injuries and massive destruction;

4. *Also condemns* the recent events that have occurred in the Jenin refugee camp, including the loss of life, injury, destruction and displacement inflicted on many of its civilian inhabitants;

5. *Demands* that Israel, the occupying Power, cease all practices and actions that violate the human rights of the Palestinian people;

6. *Stresses* the need to preserve the territorial integrity of all the Occupied Palestinian Territory and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods within the

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[73] See A/57/207 and A/57/421.

[74] A/57/314–318.

[75] E/CN.4/2001/121.

[76] E/CN.4/2002/32.

[77] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

Palestinian territory, including the removal of restrictions on movement into and from East Jerusalem, and the freedom of movement to and from the outside world;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/128

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/521, para. 24),[78] by a recorded vote of 155 to 1, with 9 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel

Abstaining: Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, United States of America, Vanuatu

57/128. The occupied Syrian Golan

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories,[79]

Deeply concerned that the Syrian Golan, occupied since 1967, has been under continued Israeli military occupation,

Recalling Security Council resolution 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Recalling also its previous relevant resolutions, the last of which was resolution 56/63 of 10 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General submitted in pursuance of resolution 56/63,[80]

Recalling its previous relevant resolutions in which, inter alia, it called upon Israel to put an end to its occupation of the Arab territories,

Reaffirming once more the illegality of the decision of 14 December 1981 taken by Israel to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan, which has resulted in the effective annexation of that territory,

Reaffirming that the acquisition of territory by force is inadmissible under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] to the occupied Syrian Golan,

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 237 (1967) of 14 June 1967,

Welcoming the convening in Madrid of the Peace Conference on the Middle East on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 aimed at the realization of a just, comprehensive and lasting peace, and expressing grave concern about the stalling of the peace process on all tracks,

1. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to comply with the relevant resolutions on the occupied Syrian Golan, in particular Security Council resolution 497 (1981), in which the Council, inter alia, decided that the Israeli decision to impose its laws, jurisdiction and administration on the occupied Syrian Golan was null and void and without international legal effect, and demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, rescind forthwith its decision;

2. *Also calls upon* Israel to desist from changing the physical character, demographic composition, institutional structure and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan and in particular to desist from the establishment of settlements;

3. *Determines* that all legislative and administrative measures and actions taken or to be taken by Israel, the

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[78] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Guinea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

[79] See A/57/207 and A/57/421.

[80] A/57/318.

[81] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

occupying Power, that purport to alter the character and legal status of the occupied Syrian Golan are null and void, constitute a flagrant violation of international law and of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[81] and have no legal effect;

4. *Calls upon* Israel to desist from imposing Israeli citizenship and Israeli identity cards on the Syrian citizens in the occupied Syrian Golan and from taking repressive measures against the population of the occupied Syrian Golan;

5. *Deplores* the violations by Israel of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;

6. *Calls once again upon* Member States not to recognize any of the legislative or administrative measures and actions referred to above;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/129

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/522, para. 9)[82]

57/129. International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that peacekeeping continues to be among the key instruments available to the United Nations in discharging its responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing the invaluable contribution to the promotion of peace and security of all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and recalling in this regard the awarding of the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize to United Nations peacekeeping forces,

Recognizing also the sacrifice of all the men and women who lost their lives in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and recalling in this regard the establishment by the Security Council of the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal,

Bearing in mind that the Security Council, by its resolution 50 (1948) of 29 May 1948, authorized the establishment of the first United Nations peacekeeping operation, and recognizing that 2003 marks the fifty-fifth anniversary of United Nations peacekeeping,

Recalling its resolution 56/225 B of 22 May 2002, in which, inter alia, it endorsed the proposals, recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,[83] including its recommendation that 29 May be designated the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers,

1. *Decides* to designate 29 May as the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, to be observed annually to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals to observe the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers in an appropriate manner;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.

RESOLUTIONS 57/130 A and B

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/523, para. 9)[84]

57/130. Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,[85]

Also taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on questions relating to information,[86]

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed "a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process":

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[82] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[83] A/56/863.

[84] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the Committee on Information.

[85] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 21* (A/57/21).

[86] A/57/157.

(*a*) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communication infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communication policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(*b*) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(*c*) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(*d*) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communication capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communication technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(*e*) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communication systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communication technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communication technology available on the open market;

(*f*) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication[87] of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Reiterating its decision to consolidate the role of the Committee on Information as its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Concurring with the view of the Secretary-General that the fundamental premise underlying the reorientation efforts of the Department of Public Information remains General Assembly resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, establishing the Department, which states in paragraph 2 of annex I that the activities of the Department should be so organized and directed as to promote to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world,

Concurring also with the view of the Secretary-General that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications should permeate all levels of the Organization, as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

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[87] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Twenty-first Session, Belgrade, 23 September to 28 October 1980*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, sect. III.4, resolution 4/21.

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive and timely information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

Reaffirming that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme while respecting existing mandates and in line with rule 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, to focus its message and concentrate its efforts better and, as a function of performance management, to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms,

Stating that the comprehensive review of the work of the Department of Public Information, being prepared in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, and the embracing of a strategic direction which the Department has to consider as a result, provide an opportunity to take further steps to rationalize in order to maintain, eliminate, enhance or reduce its activities and output, to enhance its efficiency and effectiveness, to maximize the use of its resources and, finally, to establish a departmental structure to accomplish these goals,

Expressing its concern that the gap in the information and communication technologies between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the present information and technology revolution, and, in this regard, underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances of the global information and technology revolution in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

Recognizing that developments in the information and communication technology revolution open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and, at the same time, emphasizing that it also poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Stating that the present developments and rapid changes in the field of information and communication technology have a tremendous impact on the functioning of the United Nations and the Department of Public Information in particular, which may necessitate suitable adjustments in the manner in which the mandate of the Department is implemented, as a key element in the reform and revitalization of the United Nations in a new information age,

Recognizing that the mix of means used by the Department of Public Information to disseminate its message remains a key area for review and, in this regard, that the Department should rely on reaching the public through existing external media to a greater degree than at present,

Recalling its resolution 56/262 of 15 February 2002 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of the official languages of the United Nations in the activities of the Department of Public Information, aiming to eliminate the disparity between the use of English and the other five official languages,

Welcoming Azerbaijan and Monaco to membership in the Committee on Information,

I

Introduction

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 13 (I), in which it established the Department of Public Information, and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions related to the activities of the Department;

2. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in paragraph 2 of its resolution 48/44 B of 10 December 1993 and other mandates as established by the General Assembly;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005 as a guideline that sets out the overall orientation of the public information programme for the Organization's goals through effective communication;

4. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department of Public Information and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, and encourages the Secretary-General to submit wide-ranging innovative proposals for the Department that should take into account the issue raised in the current resolution;

5. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities laid down by the General Assembly and using the United Nations Millennium Declaration[88] as its guide, to pay particular attention to such major issues as the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, sustainable development, human rights, the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/ AIDS) epidemic, the battle against international terrorism and the needs of the African continent;

6. *Concurs* with the Secretary-General on the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of

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[88] See resolution 55/2.

Public Information to widen its outreach and to improve the United Nations web site;

7. *Acknowledges* the important work carried out by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its collaboration with news agencies and broadcasting organizations in developing countries in disseminating information on priority issues;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

8. *Notes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information, in the context of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications[89] and the ongoing comprehensive review, to articulate to Member States the challenges it faces in improving its efficiency and productivity, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue the reorientation exercise, including wide-ranging and possibly new innovative proposals, taking into account broad principles and directions contained in the present resolution, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session;

9. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information is the focal point for information policies of the United Nations and the primary news centre for information about the United Nations and its activities and those of the Secretary-General, and encourages a closer integration of functions between the Department and those offices providing spokesman services for the Secretary-General;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the reorientation process, to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations web site and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, objective and equitable information about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

11. *Notes* the submission by the Secretary-General of his report on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications,[89] and welcomes the progress achieved since the commencement of the reorientation exercise in enhancing the performance and effectiveness of the Department of Public Information in accordance with the mandates established by the General Assembly and the recommendations of the Committee on Information;

12. *Welcomes* the movement of the Department of Public Information towards a new "evaluation culture" of increased performance management, based on, inter alia, an annual programme impact review, as well as feedback from Member States, where appropriate;

13. *Welcomes also* the intention of the Department of Public Information to examine further areas of duplication and fragmentation of functions in the structure of the Department as well as opportunities for greater coordination within the Secretariat as a whole and within the United Nations system in order to avoid an overlapping of efforts in the implementation of its mandates and activities;

14. *Notes* the intention of the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department of Public Information and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session in accordance with resolution 56/253, and recognizes that the comprehensive review of the Department is intended to facilitate the process of reorientation;

15. *Requests* the Committee on Information to examine thoroughly the comprehensive review once it has been finalized and to submit its recommendations thereon to the General Assembly, and stresses in this context the importance of respecting the principal competence of the Committee to undertake the examination of the review and submit its recommendations prior to consideration by any other body;

16. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure, to the extent possible, that recommendations relating to the programme of work of the Department of Public Information originate and are considered in the Committee on Information;

17. *Takes note* of the proposed mission statement of the Department of Public Information,[90] and emphasizes the importance, when implementing the mandates established by the General Assembly, of direct outreach activities to Member States and the public and the use of such intermediaries as the media, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions;

18. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, while maintaining the information programmes and activities mandated by the General Assembly until any alternative future decision has been taken on this matter upon the recommendation of the Committee on Information, to continue the study and consideration of certain organizational changes;

19. *Urges* the Department of Public Information to continue to exhibit transparency to the greatest extent possible, so as to increase awareness of the impact of its programmes and activities;

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[89] A/AC.198/2002/2.

[90] Ibid., para. 19.

20. *Emphasizes* that, through its reorientation, the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, including countries in transition, and that such reorientation contributes to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

21. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue consultations with the Committee on Information before taking any decision on the possible changing of its title;

22. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to strengthen the coordination between the Department of Public Information and other departments of the Secretariat, and emphasizes that public information capacities and activities in other departments should function under the guidance of the Department;

23. *Welcomes* the initiatives that have been taken by the Department of Public Information to strengthen the public information system of the United Nations, and, in this regard, stresses the importance of a coherent and results-oriented approach being taken by the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the programmes and funds of the United Nations system involved in public information activities and the provision of resources for their implementation, and that feedback from Member States on the relevance and effectiveness of its programme delivery should be taken into account;

24. *Welcomes also* the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Joint United Nations Information Committee in 2001,[91] commends the Department of Public Information on its active and constructive participation in the Committee, particularly its efforts in promoting inter-agency coordination in the field of public information, encourages the Department to play a key role in the newly established United Nations Communications Group, takes note of the efforts being undertaken by the Group to develop further several key initiatives, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at successive sessions on the activities of the Group;

25. *Recognizes* the need for the Department of Public Information to increase its outreach activities in all regions, and reiterates the need to include, in the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications, an analysis of the present reach and scope of the Department's activities, identifying the widest possible spectrum of audiences and geographical areas that are not covered adequately and may require special attention, including the appropriate means of communication, and bearing in mind local language requirements;

26. *Appreciates* the continued efforts of the Department of Public Information in issuing daily press releases, and requests the Department to continue providing this invaluable service to both Member States and representatives of the media, while considering possible means of improving their production process and streamlining their format, structure and length, keeping in mind the views of Member States and the fact that other departments may be providing similar or overlapping services in this regard;

III

Multilingualism and public information

27. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the full, equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all activities of the Department of Public Information, and stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 52/214 of 22 December 1997, in section C of which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the texts of all new public documents in all six official languages, and information materials of the United Nations, are made available daily through the United Nations web site and are accessible to Member States without delay;

28. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure that the Department of Public Information has appropriate staffing capacity in all official languages of the United Nations to undertake all its activities;

29. *Reminds* the Secretary-General of the need to include in future programme budget proposals for the Department of Public Information the importance of using all six official languages in its activities;

IV

Promotional campaigns

30. *Recognizes* that promotional campaigns aimed at supporting special sessions and international conferences of the United Nations are part of the core responsibility of the Department of Public Information, and welcomes the efforts of the Department to examine creative ways by which it can organize and implement these campaigns in partnership with the substantive departments concerned;

31. *Recognizes also* the need for enhanced publicity through a targeted strategy to be developed by the Department of Public Information on the forthcoming special sessions, international conferences and promotional campaigns of the United Nations pertaining to global issues, using the United Nations Millennium Declaration as its guide;

32. *Supports* the efforts of the Department of Public Information, while ensuring respect for the priorities established by the General Assembly, to focus its promotional campaigns also on the major issues identified by the Secretary-General, referred to in paragraph 5 above;

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[91] A/AC.198/2002/7.

33. *Appreciates* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, such as sustainable development, children, HIV/AIDS and decolonization, as well as the dialogue among civilizations and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, and encourages the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of these and other important global issues;

34. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to work within the United Nations Communications Group to coordinate the implementation of communication strategies with the heads of information of the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system;

V

Bridging the digital divide

35. *Welcomes* the decision, endorsed in its resolution 56/183 of 21 December 2001, to convene the World Summit on the Information Society at Geneva in December 2003 and at Tunis in December 2005;

36. *Commends* the Secretary-General for the establishment of the United Nations Information Technology Service, the Health InterNetwork and the Information and Communications Technology Task Force with a view to bridging the digital divide and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, welcomes the contribution of the Department of Public Information in publicizing the efforts of the Secretary-General to close the digital divide as a means of spurring economic growth and as a response to the continuing gulf between developed and developing countries, and, in this context, requests the Department further to enhance its role;

VI

United Nations information centres

37. *Stresses* that the United Nations information centres and information components should continue to play a significant role in disseminating information about the work of the Organization to the peoples of the world, including in the areas outlined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, and emphasizes that the information centres, as the "field voice" of the Department of Public Information, should promote public awareness of and mobilize support for the work of the United Nations at the local level, bearing in mind that information in the local languages has the strongest impact on the local populations;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department of Public Information the results of the ongoing review by the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat on this matter and information on the involvement of the Department in the United Nations houses initiative;

39. *Notes* the efforts by some United Nations information centres to develop their own web pages in local languages, and encourages the Department of Public Information to provide resources and technical facilities, in particular to those information centres whose web pages are not yet operational, to develop web pages in the respective local languages of their host countries, and encourages host Governments to respond to the needs of the information centres;

40. *Welcomes* the efforts by the Department of Public Information to restore additional resources to those United Nations information centres that have suffered reductions in staffing and other resources as a result of budget reduction exercises undertaken in the past several years;

41. *Recalls* the appeal made by the Secretary-General to the host Governments of United Nations information centres to facilitate the work of the centres in their countries by providing rent-free or rent-subsidized premises, while taking into account the economic condition of the host Governments and bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

42. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to United Nations information centres with a view to possibly transferring resources from information centres in developed countries to those in developing countries;

43. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Integration of United Nations information centres with field offices of the United Nations Development Programme: continued implementation of the views of host Governments",[92] welcomes the consistent implementation by the Department of Public Information of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly with respect to the integration of United Nations information centres with the field offices of the United Nations Development Programme, and reaffirms that any proposal in this regard should be implemented only if feasible and on a case-by-case basis, while maintaining the operational and functional independence of the information centres, taking into account the views of the host countries to ensure that the information functions and the autonomy of the centres are not adversely affected, to meet the integration policy's stated objective of improving the provision of information by the United Nations;

44. *Notes* the possibility of creating regional information centre "hubs", especially but not exclusively in

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[92] A/AC.198/2002/4.

areas where linguistic commonalities facilitate regionalization, stresses the need for the Committee on Information to consider proposed guidelines and criteria relating to the advisability of implementing this option, and stresses also that, subject to the General Assembly endorsing the guidelines and criteria, such "hubs" should be created in a flexible manner, if feasible, on a case-by-case basis and only with the express approval of all host countries concerned;

VII

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping

45. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping;[93]

46. *Commends* the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information for the establishment and functioning of the information components of peacekeeping operations and of political and peace-building missions of the United Nations, including its promotional efforts and other information support activities, and requests the Secretariat to continue to ensure the involvement of the Department from the planning stage of future operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

47. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to strengthen its capacity to contribute significantly to the functioning of information components in United Nations peacekeeping operations, including through the development of a coherent information strategy with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations;

48. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role in the selection process of spokespersons for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and, in this regard, encourages the Department to second spokespersons who have the necessary skills to fulfil the tasks of the operations or missions and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

VIII

Dag Hammarskjöld Library

49. *Notes* the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General to make the Dag Hammarskjöld Library a virtual library with world outreach, making United Nations information and other acquired materials accessible electronically to a growing number of readers and users, and notes also the efforts of the Secretary-General to enrich on a multilingual basis the stock of books and journals in the Library, including publications on peace and security and development-related issues, to ensure that the Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities;

50. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department of Public Information the results of the overall review of library services of the United Nations system, including the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, the libraries in the United Nations Offices at Geneva and Vienna, the libraries in the regional commissions, departmental libraries, libraries at United Nations information centres and depository libraries called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253;

51. *Notes* the training courses conducted by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library for the representatives of Member States and Secretariat staff on Cyberseek, web search, the Intranet, United Nations documentation, UN-I-QUE and the Official Document System of the United Nations;

IX

Traditional means of communication: radio, television and publications

52. *Stresses* that radio remains one of the most cost-effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, such as development and peacekeeping;

53. *Recalls* paragraph 47 of its resolution 56/64 B, in which it decided, building upon the success of the pilot project on the development of an international radio broadcasting capacity for the United Nations as well as the scope of its programme distribution and established partnerships, to expand the international radio broadcasting capacity of the United Nations in all six official languages;

54. *Appreciates* that the Department of Public Information, as stated in paragraph 32 of the report of the Secretary-General on the reorientation of United Nations activities in the field of public information and communications,[89] has managed to establish partnerships with over 265 radio stations to carry its broadcasts, with a potential to reach as many as 180 million listeners worldwide;

55. *Looks forward* to the report of the Secretary-General to be submitted to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session on the implementation of the United Nations international radio broadcasting capacity, including information that can be obtained from the local, national and regional radio partners about the estimated number of listeners reached and the cost-effectiveness of radio as an instrument in United Nations

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[93] A/AC.198/2002/5.

activities, so that the Committee may decide on the future of this capacity;

56. *Notes* the efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages as well as in other languages, and, in this regard, stresses the need for impartiality and objectivity concerning information activities of the United Nations;

57. *Emphasizes* that United Nations Radio and Television should take full advantage of the technological infrastructure made available in recent years, including satellite platforms, information and communication technologies and the Internet, and requests the Secretary-General, as a part of the reorientation of the Department of Public Information, to consider a global strategy for broadcasting, taking into account existing technologies;

58. *Notes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries in transition as mandated by the General Assembly, and encourages the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the programme by reviewing, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

59. *Reiterates* that all publications of the Department of Public Information, in accordance with existing mandates, should fulfil an identifiable need, should not duplicate other publications of the United Nations system and should be produced in a cost-effective manner, and, in this regard, requests the Secretary-General to include in his comprehensive review of the management and operations of the Department the relevant results of the larger review of United Nations publications and information materials called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253;

X

United Nations web site

60. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the continued development, maintenance and enrichment of the United Nations web site in the six official languages,[94] and notes the possible courses of action outlined therein;

61. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Department of Public Information in creating a high-quality, user-friendly and cost-effective web site, noting that this is especially noteworthy considering the scope of the undertaking, the budget constraints within the United Nations and the remarkably rapid expansion of the World Wide Web, reaffirms that the web site remains a very useful tool for media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Member States and the general public, and welcomes the creation of the United Nations web site on terrorism;

62. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations web site has been slower than expected because of a lack of resources, among other factors;

63. *Notes* that content-providing offices have not, in general, been making their materials on the United Nations web site available in all six official languages;

64. *Stresses* the need for adopting a decision on the multilingual development, maintenance and enrichment of the United Nations web site, considering, inter alia, the possibility of organizational restructuring towards separate language units for each of the six official languages within the Department of Public Information, in order to achieve full parity among the official languages of the United Nations;

65. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, until such a decision has been taken and implemented, to the extent possible and while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate web site, the equitable distribution of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations web site among all official languages on a continuous basis, and to make every possible effort to ensure that all materials contained on the web site that do not change and do not need regular maintenance are made available in all six official languages;

66. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations web site, and, in this regard, takes note of the proposal of the Secretary-General, as contained in paragraph 33 of his report,[94] to translate into all official languages all English materials and databases posted on the United Nations web site by the respective content-providing offices of the Secretariat, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session on the most practical, efficient and cost-effective means of implementing this proposal;

67. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session proposals relating to the designation of a date by which all supporting arrangements would be in place for the implementation of this concept and after which parity would continue and relating to the exemption from translation of specific items on the web site;

68. *Stresses* the importance of access for the public to the United Nations treaty collection and United Nations parliamentary documentation;

69. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the Department of Public Information, to continue to take full advantage of recent developments in information technology, including the Internet, in order to improve, in a cost-effective

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[94] A/AC.198/2002/6.

manner, the expeditious dissemination of information on the United Nations, in accordance with the priorities established by the General Assembly and taking into account the linguistic diversity of the Organization;

70. *Notes* that the High-Level Committee on Management of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination has requested its Technical Adviser to prepare and submit to it a preliminary study on the issue of one central Internet portal for the United Nations system, and requests the Department of Public Information, as the manager of the Organization's web site, to convey the considerations of the Committee on Information on this matter and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session;

71. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the re-engineering of the Optical Disk System, now called the Official Document System of the United Nations,[95] and on the simultaneous availability of parliamentary documentation in electronic form in the six official languages on the United Nations web site;[96]

72. *Commends* the Information Technology Services Division of the Office of Central Support Services of the Secretariat on its efforts in ensuring that the required technological infrastructure is in place to accommodate the imminent linkage of the Official Document System to the United Nations web site, and commends also the Department of Public Information for addressing issues of content management relating to the System;

73. *Notes* that the integration of the Official Document System with the United Nations web site will significantly enhance the multilingual nature of the United Nations web site and will lead to efficiencies throughout all Secretariat departments through the elimination of duplicate formatting and posting of documents;

74. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session on the impact on the functioning of the Official Document System following implementation of the full multilingual support function and on the feasibility of providing free, public access to the System through a linkage with the United Nations web site, including options with a view to revising the current subscription policy established in General Assembly resolution 51/211 F of 15 September 1997, and expresses its intention to take a decision on the subscription policy during the main part of its fifty-eighth session;

75. *Notes with interest* the electronic mail-based United Nations News Service distributed worldwide by e-mail by the Department of Public Information, appreciates the plan of the Department to provide this service in all official languages in 2002, and emphasizes that extra care needs to be taken to ensure that news-breaking stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of any bias;

XI

Final remarks

76. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its twenty-fifth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution;

77. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

78. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Questions relating to information".

RESOLUTION 57/131

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/524, para. 7),[97] by a recorded vote of 156 to none, with 8 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

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[95] A/56/120/Rev.1

[96] A/C.5/56/12.

[97] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Abstaining: France, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Palau, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

57/131. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations[98] and the action taken by the Special Committee in respect of that information,

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[99]

Recalling its resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 56/65 of 10 December 2001, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970 (XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to transmit or continue to transmit to the Secretary-General the information prescribed in Article 73 *e* of the Charter, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970 (XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RESOLUTION 57/132

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/525, para. 9),[100] by a recorded vote of 156 to 3, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: France, Micronesia (Federated States of), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/132. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories",

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[98] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. VIII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[99] A/57/74.

[100] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[101]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991 and 55/146 of 8 December 2000,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the economic stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when done in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and could also make a valid contribution to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. *Affirms* the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Affirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities which adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Reiterates* that the damaging exploitation and plundering of the marine and other natural resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, is a threat to the integrity and prosperity of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control

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[101] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. V. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all necessary steps to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV);

12. *Appeals* to the mass media, trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/133

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/526, para. 7),[102] by a recorded vote of 111 to none, with 51 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

57/133. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations",

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General on the item,[103]

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to the item,[104]

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/28 of 26 July 2001,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514 (XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

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[102] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[103] A/57/73.

[104] A/57/23 (Part III), chap. XIII. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23.*

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Also welcoming the current participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the necessary resources for funding expanded assistance programmes for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various United Nations decisions relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/67 of 10 December 2001 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[103]

2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant General Assembly resolutions;

4. *Reaffirms also* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

7. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

8. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the

framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

(*a*) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

(*b*) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and drought, on those Territories;

(*c*) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;

(*d*) The illegal exploitation of the marine resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the continuing initiative exercised by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

13. *Encourages* Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

14. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

15. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the relevant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

17. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

18. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the necessary measures to implement the resolution, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

20. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/134

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/527, para. 6)[105]

57/134. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/68 of 10 December 2001,

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[105] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, China, Cuba, Egypt, Ghana, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Nigeria, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and United Republic of Tanzania.

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General on offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,[106] prepared pursuant to its resolution 845 (IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[106]

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;

4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the necessary facilities to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/135

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/528, para. 25)[107]

57/135. Question of Western Sahara

The General Assembly,

Having considered in depth the question of Western Sahara,

Reaffirming the inalienable right of all peoples to self-determination and independence, in accordance with the principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling its resolution 56/69 of 10 December 2001,

Recalling also the agreement in principle given on 30 August 1988 by the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro to the proposals of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity in the context of their joint mission of good offices,

Recalling further all resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on the question of Western Sahara,

Recalling Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) of 27 June 1990 and 690 (1991) of 29 April 1991, by which the Council approved the settlement plan for Western Sahara,[108]

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001, as well as resolution 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002, in which the Council stressed the need for reaching a political solution to the dispute,

Reaffirming the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan,

Noting with satisfaction the entry into force of the ceasefire in accordance with the proposal of the Secretary-General, and stressing the importance it attaches to the maintenance of the ceasefire as an integral part of the settlement plan,

Noting also with satisfaction the agreements[109] reached by the two parties during their private direct talks aimed at the implementation of the settlement plan and the acceptance by the two parties of the detailed modalities for the implementation of the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process, and stressing the importance it attaches to a full, fair and faithful implementation of the settlement plan and the agreements aimed at its implementation,

Noting that, despite the progress achieved, difficulties remain in the implementation of the settlement plan,

Noting also the fundamental differences between the parties in implementing the main provisions of the settlement plan,

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[106] A/57/90 and Add.1.

[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

[108] See S/21360 and S/22464 and Corr.1.

[109] S/1997/742 and Add.1.

Stressing that the lack of progress in the settlement of the dispute on Western Sahara continues to cause suffering to the people of Western Sahara, remains a source of potential instability in the region and obstructs the economic development of the Maghreb region and that, in view of this, the search for a political solution is critically needed,

Welcoming the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy in search of a mutually acceptable political solution which will provide for self-determination for the people of Western Sahara,

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[110]

Having also examined the report of the Secretary-General,[111]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[111]

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy for their outstanding efforts and the two parties for the spirit of cooperation they have shown in the support they provide for those efforts;

3. *Takes note* of the agreements[109] reached between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberacion de Saguia el-Hamra y de Rio de Oro for the implementation of the settlement plan[108] during their private direct talks under the auspices of James Baker III, the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General, and urges the parties to implement those agreements fully and in good faith;

4. *Urges* the two parties to implement faithfully and loyally the Secretary-General's package of measures relating to the identification of voters and the appeals process;

5. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the United Nations towards the people of Western Sahara, as provided for in the settlement plan;

6. *Reiterates its support* for further efforts of the Secretary-General for the organization and supervision by the United Nations, in cooperation with the African Union,[112] of a referendum for self-determination of the people of Western Sahara that is impartial and free of all constraints, in conformity with Security Council resolutions 658 (1990) and 690 (1991), by which the Council approved the settlement plan;

7. *Notes* the fundamental differences between the parties in implementing the main provisions of the settlement plan;

8. *Supports* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy to reach a political solution to the dispute on Western Sahara which will provide for self-determination for the people of Western Sahara;

9. *Urges*, in this regard, the two parties to continue their cooperation with the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable political solution to this dispute;

10. *Takes note* of the relevant resolutions of the Security Council, including resolutions 1349 (2001) of 27 April 2001 and 1359 (2001) of 29 June 2001 as well as resolution 1429 (2002) of 30 July 2002;

11. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross in its efforts to solve the problem of the fate of people unaccounted for, and calls upon the parties to abide by their obligation under international humanitarian law to release without further delay all those held since the start of the conflict;

12. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara, bearing in mind the implementation of the settlement plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

13. *Invites* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/136

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/528, para. 25)[113]

57/136. Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to New Caledonia,[114]

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[110] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[111] A/57/206.

[112] On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[113] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection and action with respect to drug abuse and trafficking, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of equitable economic and social development, as well as continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region,

1. *Welcomes* the significant developments that have taken place in New Caledonia, as exemplified by the signing of the Nouméa Accord of 5 May 1998 between the representatives of New Caledonia and the Government of France;[115]

2. *Urges* all parties involved, in the interest of all of the people of New Caledonia, to maintain, in the framework of the Nouméa Accord, their dialogue in a spirit of harmony;

3. *Notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord aimed at taking more broadly into account the Kanak identity in the political and social organization of New Caledonia, and also those provisions of the Accord relating to control of immigration and protection of local employment;

4. *Also notes* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, such as international organizations in the Pacific region, the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Labour Organization, in accordance with their regulations;

5. *Further notes* the agreement between the signatories of the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

6. *Welcomes* the fact that the administering Power invited to New Caledonia, at the time the new institutions were established, a mission of information which comprised representatives of countries of the Pacific region;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Power to transmit information regarding the political, economic and social situation of New Caledonia to the Secretary-General;

8. *Invites* all parties involved to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all New Caledonians according to the letter and the spirit of the Nouméa Accord, which is based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to control their destiny;

9. *Welcomes* measures that have been taken to strengthen and diversify the New Caledonian economy in all fields, and encourages further such measures in accordance with the spirit of the Matignon and Nouméa Accords;

10. *Also welcomes* the importance attached by the parties to the Matignon and Nouméa Accords to greater progress in housing, employment, training, education and health care in New Caledonia;

11. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Melanesian Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous culture of New Caledonia;

12. *Notes* the positive initiatives aimed at protecting the natural environment of New Caledonia, notably the "Zonéco" operation designed to map and evaluate marine resources within the economic zone of New Caledonia;

13. *Acknowledges* the close links between New Caledonia and the peoples of the South Pacific and the positive actions being taken by the French and territorial authorities to facilitate the further development of those links, including the development of closer relations with the countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

14. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the accession by New Caledonia to the status of observer in the Pacific Islands Forum, continuing high-level visits to New Caledonia by delegations from countries of the Pacific region and high-level visits by delegations from New Caledonia to countries members of the Pacific Islands Forum;

15. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

16. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

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[114] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. IX. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[115] A/AC.109/2114, annex.

RESOLUTION 57/137

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/528, para. 25)[116]

57/137. Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of Tokelau,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples relating to Tokelau,[117]

Recalling the solemn declaration on the future status of Tokelau, delivered by the *Ulu-o-Tokelau* (the highest authority on Tokelau) on 30 July 1994, which states that an act of self-determination in Tokelau is now under active consideration, together with the constitution of a self-governing Tokelau, and that the present preference of Tokelau is for a status of free association with New Zealand,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 56/71 of 10 December 2001,

Recalling further the emphasis placed in the solemn declaration on the terms of Tokelau's special relationship with New Zealand, including the expectation that the form of help that Tokelau could continue to expect from New Zealand in promoting the well-being of its people, besides its external interests, would be clearly established within the framework of that relationship,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting also with appreciation the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization,

Recalling the dispatch in 1994 of a United Nations visiting mission to Tokelau,

Welcoming the dispatch in August 2002 of a United Nations Mission to Tokelau, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand and the representatives of Tokelau,

Having examined the report of the United Nations Mission to Tokelau, 2002,[118]

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting also that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

1. *Notes* that Tokelau remains firmly committed to the development of self-government and to an act of self-determination that would result in Tokelau assuming a status in accordance with the options on future status for Non-Self-Governing Territories contained in principle VI of the annex to General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960;

2. *Also notes* the desire of Tokelau to move at its own pace towards an act of self-determination;

3. *Further notes* the inauguration in 1999 of a national Government based on village elections by universal adult suffrage;

4. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's goal to return authority to its traditional leadership, and its wish to provide that leadership with the necessary support to carry out its functions in the contemporary world;

5. *Also acknowledges* the progress made towards that goal under the Modern House of Tokelau project, and Tokelau's view that that project, in its governance and economic development dimensions, is seen by its people as the means to achieving their act of self-determination;

6. *Further acknowledges* Tokelau's initiative in devising a strategic economic development plan for the period 2002–2004 to advance its capacity for self-government;

7. *Notes* that, consistent with the expressed desires of past traditional leaders and the principles of the Modern House of Tokelau, Tokelau has established a local public service employer which enabled the New Zealand State Services Commissioner to withdraw from his role as employer of the Tokelau Public Service as from 30 June 2001;

8. *Welcomes* the initiation of the dialogue with the administering Power and the Territory in June 2001 with a view

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[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[117] A/57/23 (Part II) and Add.1, chap. XI. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[118] A/AC.109/2002/31.

to the development of a programme of work for Tokelau in accordance with General Assembly resolution 55/147 of 8 December 2000;

9. *Acknowledges* the continuing support which New Zealand has committed to the Modern House of Tokelau project in 2002–2003, and the cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme in aligning its programmes under the project;

10. *Notes* that the Constitution of a self-governing Tokelau will continue to develop as a part and as a consequence of the building of the Modern House of Tokelau, and that both have national and international importance for Tokelau;

11. *Acknowledges* Tokelau's need for continued reassurance given the cultural adjustments that are taking place with the strengthening of its capacity for self-government and, given that local resources cannot adequately cover the material side of self-determination, the ongoing responsibility of Tokelau's external partners to assist Tokelau in balancing its desire to be self-reliant to the greatest extent possible with its need for external assistance;

12. *Notes* the special challenge inherent in the situation of Tokelau, among the smallest of the small Territories, and how a Territory's exercise of its inalienable right to self-determination may be brought closer, as in the case of Tokelau, by the meeting of that challenge in innovative ways;

13. *Acknowledges* the desire of the partners to reaffirm their commitment to each other, and the efforts being made in the context of the draft programme of work for Tokelau to identify the principles underpinning the relationship between New Zealand and Tokelau with a view to establishing a dynamic basis for its future development;

14. *Welcomes* the assurance of the Government of New Zealand that it will meet its obligations to the United Nations with respect to Tokelau and abide by the freely expressed wishes of the people of Tokelau with regard to their future status;

15. *Also welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and Territories in the region towards Tokelau, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

16. *Further welcomes* Tokelau's associate membership in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its recent accession to associate membership in the Forum Fisheries Agency;

17. *Approves* the report of the United Nations Mission to Tokelau, 2002;[118]

18. *Notes* that a study to review the options for Tokelau's future self-determination is recommended in the report, and also notes the willingness expressed by the United Nations Development Programme to assist in this regard upon request from Tokelau;

19. *Calls upon* New Zealand and Tokelau to consider developing an education programme to inform the population of Tokelau about the nature of self-determination, including the three options of integration, free association and independence, so that it may be better prepared to face a future decision on this matter, and requests the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to provide all available assistance in this regard;

20. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops its economy and governance structures in the context of its ongoing constitutional evolution;

21. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTIONS 57/138 A and B

Adopted at the 73rd plenary meeting, on 11 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/528, para. 25)[119]

57/138. Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,[120]

Recalling its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to

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[119] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were submitted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples.

[120] A/57/23 (Part II), chap. X. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolution,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the sentiments of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options of self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Recalling its resolution 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing its concern that, more than forty years after the adoption of the Declaration, there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Acknowledging the significant achievements by the international community towards the eradication of colonialism in accordance with the Declaration, and conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2010 and the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,[121]

Noting the positive constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories about which the General Assembly has received information, while also acknowledging the need for recognition to be given to expressions of self-determination by the peoples of the Territories consistent with practice under the Charter,

Recognizing that in the decolonization process there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination as enunciated by the General Assembly in its resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions,

Welcoming the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that it continues to take seriously its obligations under the Charter to develop self-government in the dependent Territories and, in cooperation with the locally elected Governments, to ensure that their constitutional frameworks continue to meet the wishes of the people, and the emphasis that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories to decide their future status,

Welcoming also the stated position of the Government of the United States of America that it supports fully the principles of decolonization and takes seriously its obligations under the Charter to promote to the utmost the well-being of the inhabitants of the Territories under United States administration,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the necessity of promoting economic stability and diversifying and strengthening further the economies of the respective Territories as a matter of priority,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation and, in this connection, bearing in mind the programmes of action of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,[122] the World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction,[123] the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[124] the International Conference on Population and Development,[125] the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II)[126] and other relevant world conferences,

Aware of the usefulness both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of appointed and elected representatives of the Territories in the work of the Special Committee,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained under the supervision of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in resolutions 1514 (XV), 1541 (XV) and other resolutions of the General Assembly,

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[121] A/56/61, annex.

[122] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*.

[123] See A/CONF.172/9, chap. I.

[124] See *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I.

[125] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[126] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Mindful that United Nations visiting missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and considering that the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers should be kept under review,

Mindful also that, by holding a Pacific regional seminar at Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002, the Special Committee was able to hear the views of the representatives of the Territories, as well as Governments and organizations in the region, in order to review the political, economic and social conditions in the Territories,

Mindful further that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to embark actively on a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining an understanding of the options of self-determination,

Mindful, in this connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters and other venues, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate, and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in their success, while recognizing the need for reviewing the role of those seminars in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Mindful also that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, and regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Noting that some territorial Governments have made efforts towards achieving the highest standards of financial supervision, and noting also that some territorial Governments have expressed concern about insufficient dialogue between them and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development on that matter,

Concerned that in 2001 economic growth slowed in many Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular in the tourism and construction sectors,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Territories to self-determination, including, if they so wish, independence, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Reaffirms also* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments, to facilitate programmes of political education in the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541 (XV);

3. *Reaffirms further* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right;

4. *Requests* the administering Powers to transmit to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter and other updated information and reports, including reports on the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories regarding their future political status as expressed in fair and free referendums and other forms of popular consultation, as well as the results of any informed and democratic processes consistent with practice under the Charter that indicate the clear and freely expressed wish of the people to change the existing status of the Territories;

5. *Stresses* the importance for it to be apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and to enhance its understanding of their conditions;

6. *Reaffirms* that United Nations visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time and in consultation with the administering Powers are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, and requests the administering Powers and the elected representatives of the peoples of the Territories to assist the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting

of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in this regard;

7. *Reaffirms also* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and recommends that priority continue to be given, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, to the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the administering Powers, in consultation with the peoples of the Territories, to take all necessary measures to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories under their administration against any environmental degradation, and requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in those Territories;

9. *Calls upon* the administering Powers, in cooperation with the respective territorial Governments, to continue to take all necessary measures to counter problems related to drug trafficking, money-laundering and other offences;

10. *Notes* the cooperative efforts of some Non-Self-Governing Territories to address the problem of illegal drugs, with a focus on demand reduction, education, treatment and legal issues;

11. *Notes with concern* that the plan of action for the first International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism[127] was not fully implemented by 2000, and stresses the importance of implementing the plan of action for the Second Decade,[121] in particular through the development of work programmes for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, including periodic analyses of each Territory and the review of the impact of the economic and social situation on the constitutional and political advancement of the Territories;

12. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to enter into constructive dialogue with the Special Committee before the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly to develop a framework for the implementation of the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for the period 2001–2010;

13. *Notes* the particular circumstances that prevail in the Territories concerned, and encourages the political evolution in them towards self-determination;

14. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism during the twenty-first century, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

15. *Invites* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to initiate or to continue to take all necessary measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social life of the Territories, and calls for closer cooperation between the Special Committee and the Economic and Social Council in furtherance of the provision of assistance to the Territories;

16. *Notes* that some Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by one administering Power, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, namely, amending or enacting legislation for the Territories through Orders in Council, while recognizing that such Orders in Council were necessary for the administering Power to fulfil its international treaty obligations;

17. *Takes note* of statements made by the elected representatives of the Territories concerned emphasizing their willingness to cooperate with all international efforts aimed at preventing abuse of the international financial system and to promote regulatory environments with highly selective licensing procedures, robust supervisory practices and well-established anti-money-laundering regimes;

18. *Calls* for an enhanced and constructive dialogue between the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the territorial Governments concerned, with a view to achieving the highest standards of financial supervision, and requests the administering Powers to assist those Territories in this matter;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of decolonization resolutions since the declaration of the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

20. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the small Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with recommendations on appropriate ways to assist the peoples of the Territories in exercising their right to self-determination.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

The General Assembly,

Referring to resolution A above,

I

American Samoa

Taking note of the report by the administering Power that most American Samoan leaders express satisfaction with the Territory's present relationship with the United States of America,

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[127] See A/46/634/Rev.1 and Corr.1, annex.

Noting that the leaders of American Samoa, including the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, are freely and fairly elected by the people, and that the general elections held in the Territory in 2000 resulted in the re-election of the incumbent Governor and Lieutenant Governor,

Taking note with interest of the statement made on the political status of American Samoa by the Lieutenant Governor of American Samoa at the Pacific regional seminar, held at Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002,[128]

Noting that the Government of the Territory continues to have financial, budgetary and internal control problems, but that it has recently taken steps to increase revenues and decrease government expenditures,

Noting also that the Territory, similar to isolated communities with limited funds, continues to experience a lack of adequate medical and other infrastructural facilities,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of the Territory to control and reduce expenditures, while continuing its programme of expanding and diversifying the local economy,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Notes* that the Department of the Interior of the United States of America provides that the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa;

3. *Takes note with interest* of the statement delivered by the Territory's delegate to the United States Congress at the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[129] in which he indicated that he was not aware that the administering Power had selected American Samoa to be reviewed under the case-by-case informal method adopted by the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the administering Power;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in the economic and social development of the Territory, including measures to rebuild financial management capabilities and strengthen other governmental functions of the Government of the Territory;

5. *Welcomes* the invitation extended to the Special Committee by the Governor of American Samoa to send a visiting mission to the Territory;

II

Anguilla

Conscious of the commitment of both the Government of Anguilla and the administering Power to a new and closer policy of dialogue and partnership through the Strategic Country Programme 2000–2003,

Aware of the efforts of the Government of Anguilla to continue to develop the Territory as a viable offshore centre and well-regulated financial centre for investors, by enacting modern company and trust laws, as well as partnership and insurance legislation, and computerizing the company registry system,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in tackling the problems of drug trafficking and money-laundering,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power and all States, organizations and United Nations agencies to continue to assist the Territory in social and economic development;

3. *Welcomes* the Country Cooperation Framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1997–1999 and its extension currently being implemented following consultations with the territorial Government and key development partners in the United Nations system and the donor community, and also welcomes the inclusion of the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme in its 2001–2003 subregional cooperation framework for the countries members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and Barbados;

4. *Takes note* of the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank, in its 2000 report on the Territory, that growth slowed to 1 per cent in 2000 from 7.5 per cent in 1999 as a result of damage caused by hurricane Lenny; that tourism, the largest contributor to the gross domestic product, declined following the closure of several hotels, with the resultant negative impact on employment; that the cessation of aluminium trans-shipment to Europe eroded government revenue; and that medium-term growth prospects remained favourable given the expected recovery in the tourism sector;

5. *Notes* that the Caribbean Development Bank, in its study entitled "International and regional economic background in 2001 and prospects", noted that the Territory experienced

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[128] See A/57/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 31. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

[129] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/56/23), chap. II, annex, para. 31.

improved performance in 2001, when a 2 per cent rate of expansion represented a recovery from the contraction in 2000 caused by hurricane damage;

6. *Welcomes* the signing of a memorandum of understanding between the Caribbean Development Bank and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to conduct a country poverty assessment for the Territory;

7. *Also welcomes* the establishment of the constitutional reform process, which puts emphasis on public information and education and is expected to create a participatory environment in which changes to the Constitution effective in the Territory can be formulated and recommended to the administering Power, pursuant to the recommendations as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories";[130]

8. *Further welcomes* the convening in the Territory in June 2002 of the thirty-fifth meeting of the Authority of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, in which the Territory enjoys associate membership;

III

Bermuda

Noting the results of the independence referendum held on 16 August 1995, and conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties of the Territory on the future status of the Territory,

Noting also the discussions between the Territory and the administering Power on internal constitutional changes,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue to work with the Territory for its socio-economic development;

3. *Welcomes* the agreement reached in June 2002 between the United States of America, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Territory formally transferring the former military base lands to the territorial Government, and the provision of financial resources to address some of the environmental problems;

4. *Also welcomes* the accession of the Territory to associate membership in the Caribbean Community;

IV

British Virgin Islands

Noting the last constitutional review in the Territory, conducted by the administering Power in 1993–1994, the coming into force of the amended Constitution, and the appointment by the territorial Government of a committee to assess the implications of independence for the implementation of a recommendation of the 1993 review,

Noting also the results of the constitutional review of 1993–1994, which made it clear that a prerequisite to independence must be a constitutionally expressed wish of the people as a result of a referendum,

Taking note of the motion adopted by the Legislative Council in March 2002, requesting the administering Power to appoint a commission to review the Constitution with the aim of modernizing it, paying specific attention to the creation of a sixth ministerial post, the standing of the Territory's "belonger" status and the devolution of power from the representative of the administering Power to the elected Government,

Noting that the Territory continues to emerge as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres, and that the financial services sector is becoming the cornerstone of the Government's recurrent budget, accounting for over 50 per cent of government revenue, and also noting the establishment of the Financial Services Commission,

Noting also the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering, and further noting that the Territory hosted a meeting of the British Overseas Territories' Drug Prevention Conference in January 2002,

Noting further that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 11 May 2002 in official ceremonies held in Tortola,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and all financial institutions to continue to provide the Territory with assistance for socio-economic development and the development of human resources, bearing in mind the vulnerability of the Territory to external factors;

3. *Takes note* of the adoption by the Legislative Council of the Territory of the Corporal Punishment Abolition Act 2000, which brought to an end the exercise of such a power by the court or other authority;

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[130] A/AC.109/1999/1 and Corr.1, annex.

4. *Welcomes* the completion of the airport terminal facility, which was the largest capital project of the Government;

5. *Also welcomes* the convening in the Territory in 2001 of a summit of elected leaders of Caribbean Territories, which addressed issues of constitution and governance, immigration and nationality, human rights, social development, civil aviation and safety, and environmental issues;

V

Cayman Islands

Noting the formation for the first time of a political party in the Territory and the subsequent change of government in November 2001,

Aware that the Territory has one of the highest per capita incomes in the region, a stable political climate and virtually no unemployment,

Noting the actions taken by the territorial Government to implement its localization programme to promote increased participation by the local population in the decision-making process in the Cayman Islands,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking, money-laundering and related activities, and noting the measures taken by the authorities to deal with those problems,

Noting also that the Territory has emerged as one of the world's leading offshore financial centres,

Noting further the approval by the Cayman Islands Legislative Assembly of the Territory's Vision 2008 Development Plan, which aims to promote development that is consistent with the aims and values of Caymanian society,

Welcoming the convening in the Territory in September 2001 of the Human Rights Today Caribbean Symposium,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Takes note* of the adoption by the Legislative Assembly in 2001 of a referendum law, which confirmed that only a referendum makes it possible for the electorate to give a clear judgement on a single issue of immediate relevance and that the Constitution of the Cayman Islands can be amended only through a referendum;

3. *Requests* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to continue to provide the territorial Government with all required expertise to enable it to achieve its socio-economic aims;

4. *Requests* the administering Power, in consultation with the territorial Government, to continue to facilitate the expansion of the current programme of securing employment for the local population, in particular at the decision-making level;

5. *Welcomes* the implementation of the Country Cooperation Framework of the United Nations Development Programme for the Territory, which is designed to ascertain national development priorities and United Nations assistance needs;

6. *Notes* the negative impact on the economy of the Territory of the slowdown in economic performance in the world, as well as the determination of the new Government to modernize the economic structure and intensify the implementation of its financial management initiative;

7. *Welcomes* the accession of the Territory to associate membership in the Caribbean Community;

8. *Also welcomes* the completion of the report of the Constitutional Review Commission, which conducted an extensive review of the current Constitution, and the recommended changes, following public discussions with community groups and individuals, pursuant to the recommendations of the administering Power as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories".[130]

VI

Guam

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Recalling also its resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular, General Assembly resolutions 56/72 A and B of 10 December 2001,

Recalling further the requests by the elected representatives and non-governmental organizations of the Territory that Guam not be removed from the list of the Non-Self-Governing Territories with which the Special Committee is concerned, pending the self-determination of the Chamorro people and taking into account their legitimate rights and interests,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam

Commonwealth Act are no longer continuing and that Guam has established the process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant that the administering Power continues to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

Aware of the potential for diversifying and developing the economy of Guam through commercial fishing and agriculture and other viable activities,

Noting the proposed closing and realigning of four United States Navy installations on Guam and the request for the establishment of a transition period to develop some of the closed facilities as commercial enterprises,

Recalling the dispatch in 1979 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory, and noting the recommendation of the 1996 Pacific regional seminar for sending a visiting mission to Guam,[131]

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Guam provided by the representatives of the Territory to the Pacific regional seminar, held at Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002,[132]

Concerned that the latest census figures in the Territory show that the percentage of persons living in poverty increased from 14 per cent in 1990 to 23 per cent in 2000,

1. *Requests* the administering Power to work with Guam's Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination with a view to facilitating Guam's decolonization and to keep the Secretary-General informed of the progress to that end;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the plebiscite of 1987 and as provided for in Guam law, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government of Guam to enter into negotiations on the matter, and requests the administering Power to inform the Secretary-General of progress to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the elected territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to continue to recognize and respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam, and to take all necessary measures to respond to the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

6. *Requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes specifically intended to promote the sustainable development of economic activities and enterprises, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

7. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to support appropriate measures by the territorial Government aimed at promoting growth in commercial fishing and agricultural and other viable activities;

VII

Montserrat

Noting that elections to the Legislative Council were held in the Territory in 2001, resulting in the assumption of office by the New People's Liberation Movement,

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information on the political and economic situation in Montserrat provided by the elected representative of the Territory to the Caribbean regional seminar, held at Havana from 23 to 25 May 2001,[133]

Noting that the last visiting mission to the Territory was dispatched in 1982,

Noting with concern the dire consequences of a volcanic eruption, which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the Territory's population to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory, in particular Antigua and Barbuda and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and which continues to have a negative impact upon the economy of the island,

Welcoming the continued assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

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[131] See A/AC.109/2058, para. 33 (20).

[132] See A/57/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 39. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23.*

[133] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/56/23), chap. II, annex, para. 34.

Noting the efforts of the administering Power and the Government of the Territory to meet the emergency situation caused by the volcanic eruption, including the implementation of a wide range of contingency measures for both the private and the public sectors in Montserrat,

Noting also the coordinated response measures taken by the United Nations Development Programme and the assistance of the United Nations disaster management team,

Noting with concern that a number of the inhabitants of the Territory continue to live in shelters because of volcanic activity,

Welcoming the inclusion of the Territory by the United Nations Development Programme in its 2001–2003 subregional cooperation framework for the countries members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and Barbados,

Noting the establishment in 2001 of the Montserrat Financial Services Commission, which is responsible for the licensing and supervision of all financial services, with the exception of domestic banks,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system as well as regional and other organizations to continue to provide urgent emergency assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

3. *Welcomes* the support of the Caribbean Community in the construction of housing in the safe zone to alleviate a shortage caused by the environmental and human crisis of the eruption of the Montsoufriere volcano, as well as the material and financial support from the international community to help alleviate the suffering caused by the crisis;

4. *Also welcomes* the Chief Minister's 2002 budget presentation, in which he noted that in 2001, for the first time in seven years, the economy of Montserrat experienced positive growth, from a negative rate of 5.43 per cent in 2000 to 0.4 per cent in 2001, the implementation of several major public works projects accounting for growth in the construction sector;

5. *Takes note* of the statement of the Chief Minister that his Government would explore the possibilities of securing additional finance from sources other than the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and that the main sources under consideration were the Caribbean Development Bank and the European Investment Bank;

6. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission, which will embark on a public education programme on the Constitution, ascertain the views of the population and make recommendations to the administering Power on changes which may be envisaged, pursuant to the recommendations as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories";[130]

VIII

Pitcairn

Taking into account the unique nature of Pitcairn in terms of population and area,

Welcoming the participation of an expert from Pitcairn for the first time in the Pacific regional seminar, held at Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to continue its discussions with the representatives of Pitcairn on how best to support their economic security;

IX

St. Helena

Taking into account the unique character of St. Helena, its population and its natural resources,

Noting that a Commission of Inquiry into the Constitution appointed at the request of the Legislative Council of St. Helena reported its recommendations in March 1999, and that the Legislative Councillors are currently considering its recommendations,

Aware of the establishment by the territorial Government of the Development Agency in 1995 to encourage private sector commercial development on the island,

Also aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial authorities to improve the socio-economic conditions of the population of St. Helena, in particular in the sphere of food production, continuing high unemployment and limited transport and communications, and calls for continuing negotiations to allow access to Ascension Island by civilian charter flights,

Noting with concern the problem of unemployment on the island and the joint action of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with it,

1. *Welcomes* the commitment of the administering Power to consider carefully suggestions for specific proposals for constitutional change made by territorial Governments, as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories";[130]

2. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant regional and international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socio-economic development challenges, including the high unemployment and the limited transport and communications problems;

X

Turks and Caicos Islands

Noting that the People's Democratic Movement was elected to power in the Legislative Council elections held in March 1999,

Also noting the efforts by the Government of the Territory to strengthen financial management in the public sector, including efforts to increase revenue,

Noting with concern the vulnerability of the Territory to drug trafficking and related activities, as well as its problems caused by illegal immigration,

Noting the need for continued cooperation between the administering Power and the territorial Government in countering drug trafficking and money-laundering,

Welcoming the assessment by the Caribbean Development Bank in its 2000 report that the economic performance of the Territory remained strong, with an increase in gross domestic product estimated at 8 per cent, reflecting strong growth in the tourism and construction sectors,

Also welc*oming* the convening in the Territory in January 2002 of the fourteenth meeting of the Bureau of the Caribbean Community, a regional organization in which the Territory enjoys associate membership,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Invites* the administering Power to take fully into account the wishes and interests of the Government and the people of the Turks and Caicos Islands in the governance of the Territory;

3. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Constitutional Review Commission, which will embark on a public education programme on the Constitution, ascertain the views of the population and make recommendations to the administering Power on changes which may be envisaged, pursuant to the recommendations as stated in its White Paper entitled "Partnership for Progress and Prosperity: Britain and the Overseas Territories;[130]

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power and the relevant regional and international organizations to continue to provide assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory;

5. *Also calls upon* the administering Power and the territorial Government to continue to cooperate to counter problems related to money-laundering, smuggling of funds and other related crimes, as well as drug trafficking;

6. *Welcomes* the first Country Cooperation Framework approved by the United Nations Development Programme for the period 1998–2002, which should, inter alia, assist in the development of a national integrated development plan that will put in place procedures for determining the national development priorities over ten years, the focus of attention being on health, population, education, tourism and economic and social development;

XI

United States Virgin Islands

Taking note with interest of the statements made and the information provided by the representative of the Governor of the Territory to the Pacific regional seminar, held at Nadi, Fiji, from 14 to 16 May 2002,[134]

Noting the continuing interest of the territorial Government in seeking associate membership in the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and observer status in the Caribbean Community and the current request by the Territory to the administering Power for the delegation of authority to proceed,

Noting also the necessity of further diversifying the economy of the Territory,

Noting further the efforts of the Government of the Territory to promote the Territory as an offshore financial services centre,

Recalling the dispatch in 1977 of a United Nations visiting mission to the Territory,

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[134] A/57/23 (Part I), chap. II, annex, para. 38. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 23*.

Noting that the Territory commemorated its annual British Virgin Islands-United States Virgin Islands Friendship Day on 11 May 2002 in official ceremonies on St. Thomas,

1. *Requests* the administering Power, bearing in mind the views of the people of the Territory ascertained through a democratic process, to keep the Secretary-General informed of the wishes and aspirations of the people regarding their future political status;

2. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals;

3. *Further requests* the administering Power to facilitate the participation of the Territory, as appropriate, in various organizations, in particular the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Caribbean Community and the Association of Caribbean States;

4. *Notes with satisfaction* that continuing measures being taken by the elected territorial Government have eased the fiscal crisis, and calls upon the administering Power to continue to provide every assistance required by the Territory to further alleviate the difficult economic situation, including, inter alia, the provision of debt relief and loans;

5. *Notes with interest* the entering into force in 2001 of the joint memorandum of cooperation on the exchange of artefacts between the Territory and Denmark, the Territory's former administering Power, as a companion agreement to the 1999 memorandum for the repatriation of archival material from the Danish colonial period, consistent with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[135] and requests the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, under its records and archives management programme, to assist the Territory in carrying out its archival and artefacts initiative;

6. *Notes* the position of the territorial Government opposing the assumption by the administering Power of submerged land in territorial waters, having regard to relevant resolutions of the General Assembly on the ownership and control of natural resources, including marine resources, by the people of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and its calls for the return of those marine resources to the people of the Territory;

7. *Notes with concern* that the last census figures for the Territory indicate that 32.5 per cent of the population is living in poverty, and that 47 per cent of children on St. Croix and 33 per cent of children on St. Thomas live in poverty.

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[135] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

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RESOLUTION 57/235

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.1, para. 7)[1]

57/235. International trade and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/182 of 20 December 2000 and 56/178 of 21 December 2001 on international trade and development,

Recalling also the Plan of Action adopted at the tenth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held at Bangkok from 12 to 19 February 2000,[2]

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as focal point within the United Nations for the integrated treatment of trade and development and the interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology, investment and sustainable development,

Taking note of the outcome of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001,[3] and noting that the Fifth Ministerial Conference, to be held at Cancún, Mexico, in September 2003, will take stock of progress in the negotiations,

Recalling the provisions of the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] dealing with trade and related development issues, as well as the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[5] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[6]

Reiterating the importance of continued trade liberalization in developed and developing countries, including in sectors of export interest to developing countries, and bearing in mind paragraph 10 of resolution 55/182,

Recalling that the domestic efforts made by many developing countries in recent years to reshape their economies, in particular by autonomous trade liberalization, will be more effective if they are matched by enhanced and predictable market access for their main export priorities in goods and services and by effective support for the development of their supply capacity, and bearing in mind in this regard paragraph 28 of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[5]

Noting the proposals made to implement the work programme of the World Trade Organization, including those to liberalize international agricultural and non-agricultural trade,

Noting also the significant contribution of the multilateral trading system to economic growth, development and employment, and the importance of maintaining the process of reform and liberalization of trade policies, as well as the importance of rejecting the use of protectionism so that the system plays its full part in promoting recovery, growth and development, in particular of developing countries,

Recalling that, to benefit fully from trade, which in many cases is the single most important external source of development financing, the establishment and enhancement of appropriate institutions and policies in developing countries, as well as in countries with economies in transition, are needed, and that, in this context, enhanced market access, balanced rules and well-targeted, sustainably financed technical assistance and capacity-building programmes for developing countries also play important roles,

1. *Reaffirms* the commitments of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization[3] to place the needs and interests of developing countries at the heart of the work programme adopted in the Declaration and to continue to make positive efforts designed to ensure that developing countries, especially the least developed among them, secure a share in the growth of world trade commensurate with the needs of their economic development;

2. *Takes note* of the in-depth review undertaken by the Trade and Development Board with respect to developments and issues in the post-Doha work programme of particular concern to developing countries and its contribution to an understanding of the actions required to help developing countries secure beneficial and meaningful integration into the multilateral trading system and the global economy and to achieve a balanced, development-oriented and successful outcome at the end of the Doha process;

3. *Also takes note*, in this regard, of the relevant work of other international organizations;

4. *Expresses its concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions that are not consistent with rules of the World Trade Organization, harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[2] TD/390, part II.

[3] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[4] See resolution 55/2.

[5] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[6] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

5. *Acknowledges* the measures taken to increase market access consistent with the rules of the World Trade Organization for some developing countries, in particular for the least developed countries, and further recognizes the importance of enhanced and predictable access to all markets for the exports of developing countries;

6. *Considers* that, in the context of the current world economic situation, the multilateral trading system should be reinforced by achieving a balanced outcome of the Doha negotiations that responds to the interests of all members of the World Trade Organization, in particular developing countries, by giving concrete shape to the development-related provisions of the work programme of the World Trade Organization and by working to ensure that the concerns of developing countries, in particular in terms of implementation issues and special and differential treatment, are properly and effectively addressed in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha, as amended by the action of the General Council of the World Trade Organization;

7. *Reiterates* the need for the deadlines in the negotiating process, as established in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha,[7] and as amended by the General Council of the World Trade Organization, to be respected;

8. *Recognizes* that trade rules and issues in the post-Doha framework should have a clear development content, and in this regard:

(*a*) Expresses its determination to take concrete action to address issues and concerns that have been raised by many developing country members regarding the implementation of some agreements and decisions of the World Trade Organization, including the difficulties and resource constraints that have been encountered in the implementation of obligations in various areas;

(*b*) Affirms that provisions for special and differential treatment are an integral part of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations by which the World Trade Organization was established and that all special and differential treatment provisions should be reviewed with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational, and notes the importance of paragraph 12.1 (i) of the Decision on Implementation-related Issues and Concerns of 14 November 2001, adopted by the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization;[8]

(*c*) Affirms that ongoing negotiations should aim at clarifying and improving disciplines in the areas of anti-dumping, subsidies and countervailing measures, taking into account the needs of developing countries, including the least developed countries, while preserving the basic concepts, principles and effectiveness of those agreements and their instruments and objectives;

(*d*) Considers that, in the area of agriculture, without prejudging their outcome, the commitment to the comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture,[9] referred to in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha and aimed at substantial improvements in market access, reductions of all forms of export subsidies with a view to phasing them out and substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support, should be fulfilled, while agreeing that the provisions for special and differential treatment for developing countries should be an integral part of all elements of the negotiations and should be embodied in the schedules of concession and commitments and, as appropriate, in the rules and disciplines to be negotiated, so as to be operationally effective and to enable developing countries to effectively take account of their development needs, including food security and rural development, takes note of the non-trade concerns reflected in the negotiating proposals submitted by members of the World Trade Organization, and confirms that non-trade concerns would be taken into account in the negotiations as provided for in the Agreement on Agriculture, in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration;

(*e*) Considers that negotiations in trade in services should be conducted with a view to promoting the economic growth of all trading partners and the development of developing and least developed countries, that there should be no a priori exclusion of any service sector or mode of supply and that special attention should be given to sectors and modes of supply of export interest to developing countries, and recognizes the work already undertaken in the negotiations and the large number of proposals submitted by members on a wide range of sectors and on several horizontal issues, as well as on movement of natural persons;

(*f*) Reaffirms the commitments made with respect to the interpretation and implementation of the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[9] in a manner supportive of public health and promotion of access to medicine for all, including full and timely implementation of the Declaration on the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights and Public Health, adopted by the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization on 14 November 2001;[10]

9. *Acknowledges* the seriousness of the concerns expressed by the least developed countries in the Zanzibar

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[7] See A/C.2/56/7, annex, paras. 45 and 46.

[8] WT/MIN(01)/17. Available on the Internet at http://docsonline.wto.org.

[9] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[10] WT/MIN(01)/DEC/2. Available on the Internet at http://docsonline.wto.org.

Declaration, adopted by their ministers responsible for trade in July 2001, and recognizes that the integration of the least developed countries into the multilateral trading system requires meaningful market access, support for the diversification of their production and export-base and trade-related technical assistance and capacity-building;

10. *Stresses* the importance of facilitating the accession of all developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, as well as countries with economies in transition, that apply for membership in the World Trade Organization, bearing in mind paragraph 21 of resolution 55/182 and subsequent developments;

11. *Reaffirms* the commitments made at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization held at Doha and at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[11] and in this regard calls upon developed countries that have not already done so to work towards the objective of duty-free, quota-free market access for all least developed countries' exports, and notes that consideration of proposals for developing countries to contribute to improved market access for least developed countries would also be helpful;

12. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to actively pursue the work programme of the World Trade Organization with respect to addressing the trade-related issues and concerns affecting the fuller integration of small, vulnerable economies into the multilateral trading system in a manner commensurate with their special circumstances and in support of their efforts towards sustainable development, in accordance with paragraph 35 of the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha;

13. *Further reaffirms* the commitment to full and faithful implementation of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing,[9] and calls for further progress in its implementation, which is a necessary and inherent condition of full implementation of the agreements arising from the Uruguay Round;

14. *Stresses* the importance of clarifying and improving disciplines and procedures under the existing provisions of the World Trade Organization applying to regional trade agreements in accordance with the relevant mandate of the Fourth Ministerial Conference, taking into account the developmental aspects of those agreements, and urges the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in accordance with its mandates, to provide technical inputs in this respect;

15. *Also stresses* the importance of the Doha mandate for negotiations on market access for non-agricultural products, which should aim to reduce or, as appropriate, eliminate tariffs, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries, and reaffirms that preferences granted to developing countries pursuant to the Decision of the Contracting Parties on Differential and More Favourable Treatment, Reciprocity and Fuller Participation of Developing Countries of 28 November 1979 ("Enabling Clause")[12] should be generalized, non-reciprocal and non-discriminatory;

16. *Recognizes* the importance for developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition of considering reducing trade barriers among themselves;

17. *Notes* the health and environment-related measures that have an impact on exports, stresses that the adoption or enforcement of any measures necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health should not be applied in a manner that would constitute arbitrary or unjustified discrimination or a disguised restriction on international trade, and recognizes the importance of capacity-building support for developing countries so as to enable them to put in place the appropriate measures necessary for meeting standards consistent with the World Trade Organization;

18. *Encourages* support for measures to simplify and to make more transparent the domestic regulations and procedures that affect trade, so as to assist exporters, particularly those from developing countries;

19. *Stresses* the importance of increased participation of developing countries in the work of relevant international standards-setting organizations and of increased technical assistance and capacity-building in this regard;

20. *Expresses its satisfaction* with the renewed and increased cooperation between the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Trade Organization as well as with the joint efforts to provide trade-related technical assistance, calls for a further strengthening of this cooperation, and stresses, in this respect, the importance of continuing and enhancing the implementation of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Programme of Capacity-building and Technical Cooperation for Developing Countries, Especially the Least Developed Countries, and Economies in Transition, in Support of their Participation in the World Trade Organization Doha Work Programme;[13]

21. *Invites*, in this regard, donors and other countries in a position to do so to continue to provide the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with the necessary resources to deliver effective and demand-driven assistance to developing countries, especially least developed countries, and

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[11] See A/CONF.191/11 and 12.

[12] L/4903. Available on the Internet at http://docsonline.wto.org.

[13] See UNCTAD/RMS/TCS/1.

countries with economies in transition, and to small and vulnerable economies, as well as to continue and enhance their contributions to the trust funds of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries and the Joint Integrated Technical Assistance Programme and to the activities of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development/World Trade Organization International Trade Centre;

22. *Also invites* donors and other countries in a position to do so to make voluntary contributions to the Doha Development Agenda Global Trust Fund of the World Trade Organization, and further invites the World Trade Organization to cooperate closely with other organizations having the necessary expertise and comparative advantage in delivering technical assistance;

23. *Invites* bilateral and multilateral financial and development institutions, in cooperation with interested Governments and their financial institutions, to expand and coordinate their efforts, with increased resources, to further support national efforts to benefit from trade opportunities and effectively integrate into the multilateral trading system;

24. *Reaffirms* the commitment on the part of developed and developing countries to mainstream appropriate trade policies in their respective development policies and programmes;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to contribute to the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[14] and welcomes the cooperation on trade, environment and development, inter alia, in the field of technical assistance to developing countries, among the secretariats of the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant international developmental and environmental organizations;

26. *Endorses* the outcomes of the mid-term review of the work of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development,[15] which was aimed at reviewing the implementation of the commitments and of the work programme agreed upon at the tenth session of the Conference, and reiterates its profound gratitude to the Government and people of Thailand for hosting the mid-term review;

27. *Welcomes* the generous offer by the Government of Brazil to host the eleventh session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in 2004, and takes note of the invitation addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference to prepare the draft provisional agenda and the timetable for the Conference for consideration by the Trade and Development Board in the first quarter of 2003;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and on developments in the multilateral trading system, under the sub-item entitled "International trade and development".

RESOLUTION 57/236

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.2, para. 8)[16]

57/236. Commodities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/183 of 20 December 2000, and stressing the urgent need to ensure its full implementation,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[17]

Taking note of the relevant provisions of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[18]

Taking note also of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[19] and *The Least Developed Countries Report, 2002*,[20]

Taking note further of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[21]

Taking note of the targets set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the Plan of Action of the World

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[14] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. 1, resolution 2, annex.

[15] See A/57/15 (Part II). For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 15*.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[17] See resolution 55/2.

[18] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[19] A/CONF.191/11.

[20] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.D.13.

[21] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Food Summit[22] and the outcome document of the World Food Summit: five years later,[23] which reaffirms the pledge to end hunger,

Taking note also of the Ministerial Declaration of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001,[24]

Taking note with concern of the report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on world commodity trends and prospects,[25] which examines the downward trend of most commodity prices,[26]

Reiterating the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development, while continuing with diversification efforts in developing countries, especially commodity-dependent countries, and bearing in mind paragraph 6 of resolution 55/183,

Recognizing that commodity-dependent developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, are highly dependent on primary commodities as their principal source of export revenues, employment, income-generation and domestic savings, and as the driving force of investment, economic growth and social development,

Recognizing also that structural changes in international commodity markets, particularly the increasing concentration in trade and distribution, constitute new challenges for commodity producers and exporters in developing countries,

Recognizing further that agriculture plays a crucial role in addressing the needs of a growing global population and is inextricably linked to poverty eradication, especially in developing countries, and recognizing also that enhancing the role of women at all levels and in all aspects of rural development, agriculture, nutrition and food security is imperative and, furthermore, that sustainable agriculture and rural development are essential for the implementation of an integrated approach to increasing food production and enhancing food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Expressing deep concern about the negative effects of unfavourable weather conditions on the supply side of most commodity-dependent developing countries, the continuing depressed levels of most commodity prices and the dramatic falls in recent years in prices of commodities of particular interest to developing countries, which adversely affect the economic growth of commodity-dependent developing countries, especially countries in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries,

Expressing its concern about the difficulties experienced by the developing countries in financing and implementing viable diversification programmes, which are essential for sustainable development and for attaining access to markets for their commodities,

Emphasizing the need for a domestic industrial transformation of commodity production in the developing countries, in particular African countries and the least developed countries, with a view to enhancing productivity and stabilizing and increasing their export earnings, thus promoting the sustainable economic growth of developing countries and their integration into the global economy,

Recognizing that commodity prices are an important element for heavily indebted poor countries that are commodity-dependent in maintaining long-term debt sustainability,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for efforts by the developing countries that are heavily dependent on primary commodities to continue to promote a domestic policy and an institutional environment that encourage diversification and liberalization of the trade and export sectors and enhance competitiveness;

2. *Expresses* the urgent need for supportive international policies and measures to improve the functioning of commodity markets through efficient and transparent price-formation mechanisms, including commodity exchanges, and through the use of viable and effective commodity price risk management instruments;

3. *Expresses its concern* at the declining terms of trade for most primary commodities, in particular for net exporters of such commodities, as well as the lack of progress in many developing countries in achieving diversification, and in this regard strongly emphasizes the need for actions at both the national and international levels, inter alia, to improve market access conditions, address supply-side constraints and provide support for capacity-building, including in areas that actively involve women;

4. *Urges* Governments and invites international financial institutions to continue to assess the effectiveness of the systems for compensatory financing of export-earnings shortfalls, and in this regard stresses the importance of empowering developing country commodity producers to insure themselves against risk, including natural disasters;

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[22] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[23] Ibid., *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[24] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[25] A/57/381, annex.

[26] Ibid., sect. I.B.

5. *Urges* the developed countries to continue to support the commodity diversification and liberalization efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, in a spirit conducive to promoting a common purpose and efficiency, inter alia, by providing technical and financial assistance for their commodity diversification programmes;

6. *Urges* producers and consumers of individual commodities to intensify their efforts to reinforce mutual cooperation and assistance;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of maximizing the contribution of the commodity sector to economic growth and sustainable development, while continuing with diversification efforts in developing countries, in particular commodity-dependent developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, and, in this respect, stresses that:

(*a*) International support for efforts by developing countries in the industrial transformation of their commodities is required to increase their export revenues and improve their competitiveness, with a view to facilitating their integration into the global economy;

(*b*) In the area of agriculture, it is important to fulfil, without prejudging the outcome of the negotiations, the commitment for comprehensive negotiations initiated under article 20 of the Agreement on Agriculture,[27] referred to in the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha,[28] and aimed at substantial improvements in market access; reductions of all forms of export subsidies, with a view to phasing them out; substantial reductions in trade-distorting domestic support; pursuing negotiations on market access for non-agricultural products aimed at reducing or, as appropriate, eliminating tariffs, including the reduction or elimination of tariff peaks, high tariffs, and tariff escalation, as well as non-tariff barriers, in particular on products of export interest to developing countries; and implementing other relevant areas of the World Trade Organization work programme;

(*c*) In line with the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[18] mutual supportiveness between the multilateral trading system and the multilateral environmental agreements, consistent with sustainable development goals, should be promoted in support of the work programme agreed through the World Trade Organization, while recognizing the importance of maintaining the integrity of both sets of instruments;

(*d*) In the light of the process of multilateral trade liberalization, which has led to the diminution of differentials accorded by preferred trade regimes, there is a need to take measures, as appropriate and consistent with international obligations, to address that diminution, in particular by strengthening technical assistance, by continuing to provide financial assistance to commodity-dependent developing countries and by addressing supply-side constraints faced by these countries, in order to improve the competitiveness of their commodity sectors and to overcome difficulties encountered in their diversification programmes;

(*e*) Timely and effective financial cooperation should be maintained and further pursued to facilitate the management by commodity-dependent developing countries, especially those in Africa and the least developed countries, as well as small island developing States and landlocked developing countries, of excessive fluctuations in commodity export earnings, and in this regard stresses that it is important to pursue diversification as part of a long-term solution;

(*f*) Strengthening technical cooperation in the areas of transfer of new technologies and know-how in production processes and training for technical, managerial and commercial staff in developing countries is of paramount importance for quality improvements in the commodity sector;

(*g*) Expansion of South-South trade and investment in commodities enhances complementarities and offers opportunities for intersectoral linkages within and among exporting countries;

(*h*) There is a need to promote, expand and intensify research and development, to provide infrastructure, enterprise development, technology and support services and to encourage investment, including joint ventures in developing countries engaged in the commodity and commodity-processing sectors;

8. *Underlines* the need to strengthen the Common Fund for Commodities, and encourages it, in cooperation with the International Trade Centre, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant bodies, to continue to strengthen the activities covered by its Second Account in developing countries with its supply chain concept of improving access to markets and reliability of supply, enhancing diversification and value addition, improving competitiveness of commodities, strengthening the market chain, improving market structures, broadening the export base and ensuring the effective participation of all stakeholders;

9. *Invites* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within its mandate, to provide assistance to developing countries in promoting commodity diversification and to include issues related to commodities in the provision of analytical support and technical assistance to developing

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[27] See *Legal Instruments Embodying the Results of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations, done at Marrakesh on 15 April 1994* (GATT secretariat publication, Sales No. GATT/1994-7).

[28] See A/C.2/56/7, annex, para. 13.

countries in respect of their effective participation in multilateral trade negotiations;

10. *Encourages* efforts to promote cooperation between relevant international organizations on commodity issues;

11. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, within existing budgetary resources, supplemented by voluntary contributions as appropriate, to designate independent eminent persons to examine and report on commodity issues, including the volatility in commodity prices and declining terms of trade and the impact these have on the development efforts of commodity-dependent developing countries, for consideration by the Trade and Development Board at its executive session and, subsequently, by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on world commodity trends and prospects, taking into account, inter alia, the current report thereon[25] and the subsequent consideration requested in paragraph 11 above;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "Commodities".

RESOLUTION 57/237

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.3, para. 16)[29]

57/237. Global biotechnology forum: Chile 2003

The General Assembly,

Underlining that intergovernmental cooperation in science and technology is an important tool with which to enhance international cooperation,

Stressing that international cooperation, including North-South as well as South-South cooperation, is an important means of offering viable opportunities to developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustainable development, and of ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the emerging global economic system,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity[30] as well as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[31]

Recalling also the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[32]

Taking note of decision IDB.26/Dec.8 adopted by the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its twenty-sixth session, held at Vienna from 19 to 21 November 2002,[33]

1. *Takes note* of the proposal by the Government of Chile to host a global biotechnology forum in December 2003 for multi-stakeholder discussions under the auspices of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, in cooperation with other relevant organizations, and to take adequate measures towards its successful organization;

2. *Encourages* interested Member States to work with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, inter alia, through regional preparatory meetings and discussions with the Secretariat, to ensure that the forum has realistic objectives and produces useful outcomes, as related to the mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its medium-term programme framework, 2002–2005;

3. *Also encourages* interested Member States to consider providing financial or other support to the forum and/or to the regional preparatory meetings;

4. *Invites* the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a section on the outcomes of the forum.

RESOLUTION 57/238

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.3, para. 16)[34]

57/238. World Summit on the Information Society

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/183 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also the Meeting of the General Assembly devoted to information and communication technologies for development, held in New York on 17 and 18 June 2002,[35]

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[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[30] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[31] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[32] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[33] See GC.10/3, annex I.

[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[35] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Plenary Meetings*, 101st to 104th meetings (A/56/PV.101–104), and corrigenda.

Welcoming the preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society undertaken at the national and regional levels, and encouraging all countries to intensify their work,

Welcoming also the regional conference held in Bamako from 25 to 30 May 2002, in the context of the preparatory process of the Summit,

Welcoming further the establishment of the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee for the World Summit on the Information Society, and encouraging Member States to support it in accomplishing its task,

Welcoming the convening of the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee, held at Geneva from 1 to 5 July 2002,

Welcoming also the decision of the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force to contribute actively to the preparatory process for the Summit and, to that end, to hold its next meeting at Geneva on 21 and 22 February 2003,

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General containing the report of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union on the ongoing preparatory process for the World Summit on the Information Society;[36]

2. *Invites* the Member States concerned to participate actively in the regional conferences to be held under the auspices of the regional commissions in Bucharest in November 2002 and in Bávaro, Dominican Republic, and Tokyo in January 2003;

3. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations, civil society and the private sector to contribute further to, and actively participate in the intergovernmental preparatory process for the Summit and in the Summit itself, according to the modalities of participation established by the Preparatory Committee;

4. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental organizations, including international and regional institutions, as well as the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force, to enhance their cooperation in and support to the preparatory process for the Summit;

5. *Recommends* that the occasion of the World Summit on the Information Society be used for arranging events related to the Summit;

6. *Recommends also* that, while addressing the whole range of relevant issues related to the information society, all actors involved adopt a coordinated approach to addressing the needs of all countries, including developing countries, in particular the least developed countries;

7. *Requests* the International Telecommunication Union, in the context of its leading managerial role in the preparatory process for the Summit, in close cooperation with the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and in coordination with other information offices of the United Nations system, to launch a public information campaign to raise global awareness of the Summit, within the existing resources and through voluntary contributions;

8. *Reiterates its call* to the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the International Telecommunication Union to support the preparations for and the holding of the Summit, as well as to facilitate the effective participation of representatives of developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in the regional meetings to be held in the first half of 2003, the preparatory meetings to be held in 2003 and the Summit itself;

9. *Invites* countries to send representation at the highest political level to the Summit, which will be held at Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 and at Tunis in 2005;

10. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to inform all heads of State and Government about the importance of the forthcoming Summit;

11. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union to submit to the General Assembly for information, at its fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth sessions, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the preparations for the Summit.

RESOLUTION 57/239

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.3, para. 16)[37]

57/239. Creation of a global culture of cybersecurity

The General Assembly,

Noting the growing dependence of Governments, businesses, other organizations and individual users on information technologies for the provision of essential goods and services, the conduct of business and the exchange of information,

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[36] A/57/71-E/2002/52 and Add.1.

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

Recognizing that the need for cybersecurity increases as countries increase their participation in the information society,

Recalling its resolutions 55/63 of 4 December 2000 and 56/121 of 19 December 2001 on establishing the legal basis for combating the criminal misuse of information technologies,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001 and 57/53 of 22 November 2002 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security,

Aware that effective cybersecurity is not merely a matter of government or law enforcement practices, but must be addressed through prevention and supported throughout society,

Aware also that technology alone cannot ensure cybersecurity and that priority must be given to cybersecurity planning and management throughout society,

Recognizing that, in a manner appropriate to their roles, government, business, other organizations, and individual owners and users of information technologies must be aware of relevant cybersecurity risks and preventive measures and must assume responsibility for and take steps to enhance the security of these information technologies,

Recognizing also that gaps in access to and the use of information technologies by States can diminish the effectiveness of international cooperation in combating the criminal misuse of information technology and in creating a global culture of cybersecurity, and noting the need to facilitate the transfer of information technologies, in particular to developing countries,

Recognizing further the importance of international cooperation for achieving cybersecurity through the support of national efforts aimed at the enhancement of human capacity, increased learning and employment opportunities, improved public services and better quality of life by taking advantage of advanced, reliable and secure information and communication technologies and networks and by promoting universal access,

Noting that, as a result of increasing interconnectivity, information systems and networks are now exposed to a growing number and a wider variety of threats and vulnerabilities which raise new security issues for all,

Noting also the work of relevant international and regional organizations on enhancing cybersecurity and the security of information technologies,

1. *Takes note* of the elements annexed to the present resolution, with a view to creating a global culture of cybersecurity;

2. *Invites* all relevant international organizations to consider, inter alia, these elements for the creation of such a culture in any future work on cybersecurity;

3. *Invites* Member States to take into account these elements, inter alia, in their efforts to develop throughout their societies a culture of cybersecurity in the application and use of information technologies;

4. *Invites* Member States and all relevant international organizations to take, inter alia, these elements and the need for a global culture of cybersecurity into account in their preparations for the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held at Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003 and at Tunis in 2005;

5. *Stresses* the necessity to facilitate the transfer of information technology and capacity-building to developing countries, in order to help them to take measures in cybersecurity.

Annex

Elements for creating a global culture of cybersecurity

Rapid advances in information technology have changed the way Governments, businesses, other organizations and individual users who develop, own, provide, manage, service and use information systems and networks ("participants") must approach cybersecurity. A global culture of cybersecurity will require that all participants address the following nine complementary elements:

(*a*) *Awareness*. Participants should be aware of the need for security of information systems and networks and what they can do to enhance security;

(*b*) *Responsibility*. Participants are responsible for the security of information systems and networks in a manner appropriate to their individual roles. They should review their own policies, practices, measures and procedures regularly, and should assess whether they are appropriate to their environment;

(*c*) *Response*. Participants should act in a timely and cooperative manner to prevent, detect and respond to security incidents. They should share information about threats and vulnerabilities, as appropriate, and implement procedures for rapid and effective cooperation to prevent, detect and respond to security incidents. This may involve cross-border information-sharing and cooperation;

(*d*) *Ethics*. Given the pervasiveness of information systems and networks in modern societies, participants need to respect the legitimate interests of others and recognize that their action or inaction may harm others;

(*e*) *Democracy*. Security should be implemented in a manner consistent with the values recognized by democratic societies, including the freedom to exchange thoughts and ideas, the free flow of information, the confidentiality of information and communication, the appropriate protection of personal information, openness and transparency;

(*f*) *Risk assessment*. All participants should conduct periodic risk assessments that identify threats and vulnerabilities; are sufficiently broad-based to encompass key internal and external factors, such as technology, physical and human factors, policies and third-party services with security implications; allow determination of the acceptable level of risk; and assist in the selection of appropriate controls to manage the risk of potential harm to information systems and networks in the light of the nature and importance of the information to be protected;

(*g*) *Security design and implementation*. Participants should incorporate security as an essential element in the planning and design, operation and use of information systems and networks;

(*h*) *Security management*. Participants should adopt a comprehensive approach to security management based on risk assessment that is dynamic, encompassing all levels of participants' activities and all aspects of their operations;

(*i*) *Reassessment*. Participants should review and reassess the security of information systems and networks and should make appropriate modifications to security policies, practices, measures and procedures that include addressing new and changing threats and vulnerabilities.

RESOLUTION 57/240

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.4, para. 6)[38]

57/240. Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/164 of 16 December 1996, 52/185 of 18 December 1997, 53/175 of 15 December 1998, 54/202 of 22 December 1999, 55/184 of 20 December 2000 and 56/184 of 21 December 2001 on enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problems of developing countries,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on external debt crisis and development,[39]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[40]

Reaffirming the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[41] which recognizes sustainable debt financing as an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment,

Noting with great concern that the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of the heavily indebted poor developing countries constitutes an element that adversely affects their sustainable development efforts, and noting in this regard that the total debt stock of the developing countries rose from 1,458 billion dollars in 1990 to 2,442 billion dollars in 2001,[42]

Noting with concern that some highly indebted, middle-income developing countries are facing serious difficulties in meeting their external debt-servicing obligations,

Welcoming the progress made on the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative designed to provide deeper, broader and faster relief, while recognizing that significant challenges remain to ensure that countries achieve a lasting exit from unsustainable debt,

Welcoming also the actions taken by creditor countries within the framework of the Paris Club and by some creditor countries through the cancellation of bilateral debts, and urging all creditor countries to participate in efforts to remedy the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries,

1. *Reaffirms* the determination, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[40] to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

2. *Recognizes* that creditors and debtors must share the responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations and that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development, including poverty reduction and the achievement of the development goals set out in the Millennium Declaration, and in this regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards these objectives;

3. *Stresses* that sustainable debt financing is an important element for mobilizing resources for public and private investment, and that national comprehensive strategies to monitor and manage the external liabilities embedded in the

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[38] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[39] A/57/253.

[40] See resolution 55/2.

[41] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[42] See A/57/253, table.

domestic preconditions for debt sustainability, including sound macroeconomic policies and public resource management, are a key element in reducing national vulnerabilities;

4. *Recalls* the call on industrialized countries, as expressed in the Millennium Declaration, to implement the enhanced programme of debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries without further delay and to agree to cancel all official bilateral debts of those countries in return for their making demonstrable commitments to poverty reduction, including through poverty reduction strategy papers, where appropriate, and in this regard welcomes the decision of those countries that have already done so, emphasizing that debt relief complementary to the framework be treated as additional;

5. *Calls upon* the heavily indebted poor countries to take, as soon as possible, the policy measures necessary to become eligible for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and to reach the decision point;

6. *Stresses* the need to pursue, where appropriate, debt relief measures vigorously and expeditiously, by all creditors, including within the Paris and London Clubs and other relevant forums, so as to contribute to debt sustainability and facilitate sustainable development;

7. *Welcomes* initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, including the United Nations system, and invites the Bretton Woods institutions as well as the private sector, to take appropriate measures and actions for the implementation of the commitments, agreements and decisions of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in particular those relating to the question of the external debt problem of developing countries, and in this regard stresses the need:

(*a*) To implement speedily, effectively and fully the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which should be fully financed through additional resources, while stressing the need for fair, equitable and transparent burden-sharing among the international public creditor community and other donor countries, and take into consideration, as appropriate, measures to address any fundamental changes in the economic circumstances of those developing countries that have an unsustainable debt burden caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or conflict, taking into account initiatives that have been undertaken to reduce outstanding indebtedness;

(*b*) To bring about a sustained commitment on the part of the heavily indebted poor countries to improvements in domestic policies and economic management, to support capacity-building for the management of financial assets and liabilities, to ensure full participation and delivery of relief by all affected creditors, to ensure adequate and sufficiently concessional financing by international financing institutions and the donor community, and to consider an early review of the difficult issues of HIPC-to-HIPC debt relief and creditor litigation;

(*c*) To bring international debtors and creditors together in relevant international forums to restructure unsustainable debt in a timely and efficient manner, taking into account the need to involve the private sector in the resolution of crises due to indebtedness, where appropriate;

(*d*) To acknowledge the problems of the debt sustainability of some low-income countries that are not heavily indebted, in particular those facing exceptional circumstances;

(*e*) To reduce the unsustainable debt burden of developing countries through such actions as debt relief and, as appropriate, debt cancellation and other innovative mechanisms geared to comprehensively addressing the debt problems of developing countries, in particular the poorest and most heavily indebted ones;

(*f*) To encourage exploring innovative mechanisms to comprehensively address the debt problems of developing countries, including middle-income countries, and countries with economies in transition; such mechanisms may include debt-for-sustainable-development swaps, or multi-creditor debt swap arrangements, as appropriate;

(*g*) To establish effective debt-tracking mechanisms in developing countries and strengthen technical assistance for external debt management and debt tracking, including through enhanced cooperation and coordination between organizations providing assistance in this regard;

(*h*) To take steps to ensure that resources provided for debt relief do not detract from official development assistance resources intended to be available for developing countries and that the debt relief arrangements seek to avoid imposing any unfair burden on other developing countries;

(*i*) To welcome consideration by all relevant stakeholders of an international debt-work-out mechanism, in the appropriate forums, the adoption of which should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis, to promote fair burden-sharing and minimize moral hazard, which will engage debtors and creditors to come together to restructure unsustainable debts in a timely and efficient manner;

(*j*) To establish a set of clear principles for the management and resolution of financial crises that provide for fair burden-sharing between the public and private sectors and among debtors, creditors and investors, while recognizing that a flexible mix of instruments is needed to respond appropriately to the varying economic circumstances and capacities of different countries;

9. *Stresses* the importance of continued flexibility with regard to the eligibility criteria for the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, in particular for countries in post-conflict situations, and the need to keep the computational

procedures and assumptions underlying debt sustainability analysis under review;

10. *Emphasizes* the need to help bring about initial recovery in heavily indebted poor post-conflict countries, in coordination with the international financial institutions, to help clear, as appropriate, the arrears of those countries vis-à-vis international financial institutions;

11. *Reaffirms* that reviews of debt sustainability should also bear in mind the impact of debt relief on progress towards the achievement of the development goals set out in the Millennium Declaration and the fact that debt sustainability analysis at the completion point needs to take into account any worsening global growth prospects and declining terms of trade;

12. *Notes* that it is important for the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to continue their efforts to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis and to consider any fundamental changes in countries' debt sustainability caused by natural catastrophes, severe terms-of-trade shocks or conflict when making policy recommendations, including for debt relief, as appropriate;

13. *Stresses* the need to strengthen the institutional capacity of developing countries in debt management, calls upon the international community to support the efforts made towards this end, and in this regard stresses the importance of such initiatives as the Debt Management and Financial Analysis System,[43] the International Monetary Fund and World Bank guidelines for public debt management,[44] and the debt-management capacity-building programme;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution and to include in that report a comprehensive and substantive analysis of the external debt and debt-servicing problems of developing countries, inter alia, those resulting from global financial instability;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "External debt crisis and development".

RESOLUTION 57/241

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.5, para. 7)[45]

57/241. International financial system and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/186 of 20 December 2000 and 56/181 of 21 December 2001, both entitled "Towards a strengthened and stable international financial architecture responsive to the priorities of growth and development, especially in developing countries, and to the promotion of economic and social equity",

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by the heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[46]

Recalling further its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, which was adopted by the Conference on 22 March 2002,[47] as well as the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), which was adopted on 4 September 2002,[48]

Reiterating that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends on good governance within each country and at the international level, and stressing that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation, and that transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should support sustainable development, sustained economic growth and poverty reduction and allow for the mobilization, in a coherent manner, of all sources of financing for development, including the mobilization of domestic resources, international flows, trade, official development assistance and external debt relief,

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[43] The Debt Management and Financial Analysis System is a computerized system developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition to develop appropriate administrative, institutional and legal structures for effective foreign and domestic public debt management. By December 2002, the system had been installed in the debt offices of sixty countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

[44] See www.imf.org/external/np/mae/pdebt/2000/eng/index.htm.

[45] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[46] See resolution 55/2.

[47] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[48] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Expressing its concern about the fact that developing countries have made net outward transfers of financial resources over the last five years, and underlining the need for measures at the national and international levels to reverse this trend, while taking note of efforts to this end that have been made thus far,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[49]

1. *Expresses its concern* about the difficulties of the present world economic situation, stresses the importance of confronting it through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions, and underlines the importance of continued efforts to improve global economic governance and strengthen the United Nations leadership role in promoting development;

2. *Stresses* the importance of strong domestic institutions to promote business activities and financial stability for the achievement of growth and development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the corporate, financial and banking sectors;

3. *Stresses also* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and in this context invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account their effects in terms of an external economic environment favourable to growth and development;

4. *Underlines* the importance of promoting financial stability, and reiterates that measures to mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of short-term capital flows and to improve transparency of and information about financial flows are important and must be considered;

5. *Notes* that important international efforts are under way to reform the international financial architecture, emphasizes that those efforts need to be sustained with greater transparency and with the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and that one major objective of the reform is to enhance financing for development and poverty eradication, and underscores furthermore the commitment, set forth in paragraph 53 of the Monterrey Consensus,[47] to sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development;

6. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the joint International Monetary Fund/World Bank Development Committee of 28 September 2002, in particular its paragraph 10, on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways to enhance further the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encourages all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures to this end;

7. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund to continue its work on quotas, and welcomes the continuing consideration by the Fund of its quota review and the reiteration by the International Monetary and Financial Committee that the Fund should have adequate resources to fulfil its financial responsibilities and that quotas should reflect developments in the international economy;

8. *Underlines* the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty reduction and the strengthening of their democratic systems, while reaffirming that each country has primary responsibility for its own economic and social development, and that national policies have the leading role in the development process;

9. *Stresses* the need for multilateral financial institutions, in providing policy advice and financial support, to work on the basis of sound, nationally-owned paths of reform that take into account the needs of the poor and efforts to reduce poverty, and to pay due regard to the special needs and implementing capacities of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, aiming at economic growth and sustainable development, and that the advice should take into account social costs of adjustment programmes, which should be designed to minimize negative impacts on the vulnerable segments of society, and underscores the importance in this regard of gender-sensitive employment and poverty eradication policies and strategies;

10. *Invites* the multilateral, regional and subregional development institutions to complement national efforts to strengthen domestic financial and regulatory systems with a view to creating a transparent, stable and predictable investment climate, thus attracting and enhancing inflows of productive capital, thereby contributing to increasing economic growth and eradicating poverty;

11. *Invites* the multilateral and regional development banks to continue to play a vital role in serving the development needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to contribute to providing an adequate supply of finance to countries that are challenged by poverty, follow sound economic policies and may lack adequate access to

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[49] A/57/151.

capital markets, and to mitigate the impact of excessive volatility of financial markets, and underlines that strengthened regional development banks and subregional financial institutions add flexible financial support to national and regional development efforts, enhancing ownership and overall efficiency, and that they serve as a vital source of knowledge and expertise on economic growth and development for their developing member countries;

12. *Stresses* the need for structural reforms to strengthen corporate governance, accounting and auditing, in particular when inadequate policies can have systemic consequences;

13. *Emphasizes* that it is essential to ensure the effective and equitable participation of developing countries in the formulation of financial standards and codes, and in this regard underscores that it is also essential to ensure implementation, on a voluntary and progressive basis, as a contribution to reducing vulnerability to financial crisis and contagion, and stresses the need for the International Monetary Fund to strengthen further its surveillance of all economies, with particular attention to short-term capital flows and their impact;

14. *Notes* the impact of financial crisis or risk of contagion in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, regardless of their size, and in this regard underlines the need to ensure that the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, have a suitable array of financial facilities and resources to respond in a timely and appropriate way in accordance with their policies;

15. *Stresses*, in the consideration of any new debt resolution mechanism, the importance of a broad discussion in the appropriate forums with the participation of all interested actors, welcomes the steps taken by the international financial institutions to take into account social aspects and the borrowing costs for developing countries, encourages them to continue their efforts in that regard, and reiterates that the adoption of such a mechanism should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis;

16. *Encourages* the exploration of ways of generating new public and private innovative sources of finance for development purposes, provided that those sources do not unduly burden developing countries, and takes note of the proposal of using special drawing rights allocations for development purposes, set forth in paragraph 44 of the Monterrey Consensus;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Macroeconomic policy questions", the sub-item entitled "International financial system and development".

RESOLUTION 57/242

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/529/Add.6, para. 7)[50]

57/242. Preparations for the International Ministerial Conference on Transit Transport Cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[51] in which heads of State and Government recognized the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries, urged both bilateral and multilateral donors to increase financial and technical assistance to that group of countries in order to meet their particular development needs and to help them to overcome the impediments of geography by improving their transit transport systems, and resolved to create an environment, at the national and global level alike, conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 56/180 of 21 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General, within the existing resources of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and voluntary contributions, to convene in 2003 an international ministerial meeting of landlocked and transit developing countries and donor countries and international financial and development institutions on transit transport cooperation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries: preparatory process for the International Ministerial Meeting on Transit Transport Cooperation",[52]

1. *Welcomes and accepts* the generous offer of the Government of Kazakhstan to host the international meeting referred to in resolution 56/180, which is henceforth to be known as the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation;

2. *Decides* that the International Ministerial Conference should be convened at Almaty on 28 and 29 August 2003;

3. *Also decides* that the open-ended intergovernmental preparatory committee for the Conference will hold two sessions, that the sixth Meeting of Governmental Experts from Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Representatives of Donor Countries and Financial and

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[51] See resolution 55/2.

[52] A/57/340.

Development Institutions, to be held in New York from 23 to 27 June 2003, will serve as the first session and will address both substantive and organizational matters, including those relating to the election of the bureau and the format of the Conference, and that the Meeting of Senior Officials, to be held at Almaty from 25 to 27 August 2003, will serve as the second session;

4. *Further decides* that the intergovernmental preparatory committee shall have a bureau consisting of ten representatives of Member States elected on the basis of equitable geographical representation;

5. *Designates* the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States as the Secretary-General of the Conference;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference, in close cooperation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the World Bank, to organize all the sessions of the intergovernmental preparatory committee;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General of the Conference, in close cooperation with the regional commissions, to organize intergovernmental regional and subregional meetings, where applicable, and decides that these regional and subregional meetings should finalize their work at the latest by April 2003 in order to make a substantive contribution to the work of the intergovernmental preparatory committee;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the Conference to make the necessary arrangements, on the basis of consultations with Member States, to facilitate the meaningful participation of civil society, including the private sector, in the preparatory process and in the Conference itself, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council;

9. *Invites* the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the regional commissions, the international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and other relevant regional and international organizations and the international community to provide the necessary substantive, financial and technical support to the preparatory process and organization of the Conference and to participate actively therein;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to submit a report on the outcomes of the regional and subregional meetings, prepared in consultation with relevant regional and international organizations, for the consideration of the preparatory committee, no later than 15 May 2003;

11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the preparations for the Conference and, in particular, the participation of representatives of landlocked developing countries, transit developing countries and the least developed countries in the intergovernmental preparatory meetings and in the Conference itself;

12. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of concerned organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to launch a public information campaign, within the existing resources of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and with voluntary contributions, to raise public awareness of the objectives and significance of the Conference;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the outcome of the Conference.

RESOLUTION 57/243

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/530, para. 14)[53]

57/243. Industrial development cooperation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/151 of 18 December 1991, 49/108 of 19 December 1994, 51/170 of 16 December 1996, 53/177 of 15 December 1998 and 55/187 of 20 December 2000 on industrial development cooperation,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[54]

Reaffirming the outcomes of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001,[55] the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[56] the International Conference on Financing for Development, held at Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[57] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[58]

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[53] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[54] See resolution 55/2.

[55] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[56] A/CONF.191/11 and 12.

[57] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[58] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

Noting that the United Nations Industrial Development Organization has been awarded by the Global Environment Facility Council the status of an executing agency with expanded opportunities of the Global Environment Facility,

Recognizing the role of the business community, including the private sector, in enhancing the dynamic process of the development of the industrial sector, and underlining the importance of the benefits of foreign direct investment in that process,

Recognizing also the importance of the transfer of technology to the developing countries and countries with economies in transition as an effective means of international cooperation in the pursuit of poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Taking note of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization,[59] and welcoming the process of reform that has led to the more efficient work of the organization and the value of the conclusions contained therein, and encourages the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to enhance its effectiveness,

1. *Reiterates* that industrialization is a key element in the promotion of the sustainable development of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and in the creation of productive employment, value-added income generation and, thus, the eradication of poverty, as well as in the facilitation of social integration, including the integration of women into the development process;

2. *Underlines* the importance of industrial development cooperation and a positive investment and business climate at the international, regional, subregional and national levels in promoting the expansion, diversification and modernization of productive capacities in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Emphasizes* the necessity of a favourable international and national environment for the industrialization of developing countries, and urges all Governments to adopt and to implement development policies and strategies that promote, within a framework of transparent and accountable industrialization policies, inter alia, enterprise development, foreign direct investment, technological adaptation and innovation, expanded access to markets and effective use of official development assistance to enable developing countries to enhance an environment that is attractive to investment, so as to augment and supplement domestic resources for the expansion, diversification and modernization of their industrial production capacity in the context of an open, equitable, non-discriminatory, transparent, multilateral and rule-based international trading system;

4. *Confirms* the contribution of industry to social development, especially in the context of the linkages between industry and agriculture, and notes that, within the totality of these interlinkages, industry serves as a powerful source of the employment generation, income creation and social integration required for the eradication of poverty;

5. *Acknowledges* the interlinkage of globalization and interdependence, and reiterates the importance of the transfer of technology to developing countries and countries with economies in transition as an effective means of international cooperation in the field of industrial development;

6. *Calls* for the continuing use of official development assistance for industrial development in the developing countries and countries with economies in transition, calls upon donor countries and recipient countries to continue to cooperate in their efforts to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness of official development assistance resources devoted to industrial development cooperation and to support the efforts of developing countries and countries with economies in transition to promote industrial development cooperation among themselves, and underlines the importance of mobilizing funds for industrial development at the country level, including private funding and funds from relevant development finance institutions;

7. *Reiterates* the importance of cooperation and coordination within the United Nations system in providing effective support for the sustainable industrial development of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and calls upon the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to carry out its central role in the field of industrial development according to its mandate;

8. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to continue to enhance its effectiveness, relevance and development impact by, inter alia, strengthening its cooperation with other institutions of the United Nations system at all levels;

9. *Calls upon* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to participate actively in coordination at the field level through the common country assessment and the United Nations Development Assistance Framework processes and sectorwide approaches;

10. *Welcomes* the membership of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in the United Nations Development Group;

11. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to implement appropriate projects

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[59] See A/57/184.

funded through the Global Environment Facility, particularly where these involve the transfer of technology;

12. *Welcomes* the current discussions among the States members of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization on programme priorities and the substance of programmes, aimed at helping the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to become a more focused, effective and efficient organization capable of delivering concrete outcomes, and to gain better recognition and stronger support in the international community;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to facilitate industrial development with emphasis on initiatives to support micro, small and medium-sized enterprises of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, in particular least developed countries and landlocked developing countries;

14. *Encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to contribute actively to the achievement of the objectives of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, with a view to strengthening the industrialization process in Africa;

15. *Also encourages* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to further develop its global forum capacity according to its mandate, with the aim of enhancing, in the context of the globalization process, a common understanding of global and regional industrial sector issues and their impact on poverty eradication and sustainable development, and calls for further strengthening of the demand-driven integrated programme approach at the field level;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/244

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/530, para. 14)[60]

57/244. Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/205 of 22 December 1999 on the prevention of corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds, 55/61 of 4 December 2000 on an effective international legal instrument against corruption, 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin and 56/186 of 21 December 2001 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

Deeply concerned about the seriousness of problems posed by corrupt practices and transfer of funds and assets of illicit origin, which may endanger the stability and security of societies, undermine the values of democracy and civil ethics and jeopardize social, economic and political development, particularly when an inadequate national and international response leads to impunity,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[61] which underlined that fighting corruption at all levels is a priority,

Underlining the fact that preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds is an important element in the effective mobilization and allocation of resources for development in affected developing countries and in supporting their aims of poverty eradication and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the responsibility of Governments to adopt policies at the national and international levels aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices, transfer of funds and assets of illicit origin and facilitating the return of such funds and assets to the countries of origin,

Recognizing the importance of international cooperation and instruments of international and national laws and legislation for combating corruption, bribery and money-laundering in international commercial transactions,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on prevention of corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin;[62]

2. *Encourages* all Governments to combat corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of illicitly acquired funds and assets and to work for the return of such funds and assets to the countries of origin, after request and due process, and welcomes the actions at the national and international levels taken by some Governments in this regard;

3. *Notes* the ongoing work of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, whose terms of reference were adopted by the General Assembly in its

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[60] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[61] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[62] A/57/158 and Add.1 and 2.

resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002, and urges an early completion of those negotiations to allow for the adoption of the convention by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, and the celebration of the high-level political conference, to be held in Mexico by the end of 2003, for the purpose of signing the convention;

4. *Calls* for all efforts to promote good public and corporate governance at all levels, which is essential for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development worldwide;

5. *Also calls*, while recognizing the importance of national measures, for further international cooperation, inter alia, through the United Nations system, in support of efforts by Governments to prevent and address the transfer of funds of illicit origin, as well as to return such funds and assets to the countries of origin;

6. *Requests* the international community to support national efforts to strengthen human and institutional capacity and regulatory frameworks for preventing corruption, bribery, money laundering and the transfer of funds and assets of illicit origin, and to assist in the return of such funds and assets to the countries of origin;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on this matter at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Decides* to keep the matter under review and to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session a sub-item entitled "Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin" under the item entitled "Sectoral policy questions".

RESOLUTION 57/245

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.5, para. 6)[63]

57/245. International Year of Mountains, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolution 55/189 of 20 December 2000,

Recognizing chapter 13 of Agenda 21[64] and all relevant paragraphs of the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[65] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable mountain development,

Noting the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions, launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development with the committed support of twenty-nine countries, sixteen intergovernmental organizations and sixteen organizations from the major groups, as an important approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable mountain development,

Taking note of the Bishkek Mountain Platform, the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held at Bishkek from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

1. *Takes note* of the interim report transmitted by the Secretary-General on the International Year of Mountains, 2002;[66]

2. *Welcomes* the success achieved during the International Year of Mountains, during which numerous activities and initiatives were undertaken at all levels, including major international meetings held in Bhutan, Canada, Ecuador, Germany, India, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Peru and Switzerland, which catalysed a strengthened interest for sustainable development and poverty eradication in mountain regions;

3. *Recommends* that the experience gained during the International Year of Mountains be valued in the context of an appropriate follow-up;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the effective role played by Governments, as well as major groups, academic institutions and international organizations and agencies, in the activities related to the International Year of Mountains, including the establishment of seventy-four national committees;

5. *Also notes with appreciation* the work undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the lead agency for the International Year of Mountains, as well as the valuable contributions made by the United Nations

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[63] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[64] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[65] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[66] A/57/188.

Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund;

6. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, and all relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations and the private sector to provide support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to the local, national and international programmes and projects resulting from the International Year of Mountains;

7. *Invites* the international community and other relevant partners to consider joining the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions;

8. *Notes* that all stakeholders in the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions have initiated a consultative process, with a view to determining the best options for further assisting stakeholders in the implementation of the Partnership, including through consideration of the offer made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to host a secretariat financed through voluntary contributions;

9. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to continue their constructive collaboration in the context of the follow-up to the International Year of Mountains, taking into account the inter-agency group on mountains, and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, international financial institutions and other relevant international organizations, consistent with the mandates specified in the Bishkek Mountain Platform;

10. *Decides* to designate 11 December as International Mountain Day, as from 11 December 2003, and encourages the international community to organize on this day events at all levels to highlight the importance of sustainable mountain development;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the achievements of the International Year of Mountains, under a sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 57/246

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.1, para. 6)[67]

57/246. Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continuing validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 54/206 of 22 December 1999, 55/190 of 20 December 2000 and 56/191 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[68] in particular the targets and commitments relating to development and poverty eradication,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[69]

1. *Conveys its appreciation* to the President of the General Assembly for having undertaken consultations with Member States, as foreseen in its resolution 54/206, on the draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

2. *Decides* that a final decision on the need for an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium will be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the basis of the outcome of the ad hoc working group on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings in the economic, social and related fields;

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[67] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[68] See resolution 55/2.

[69] A/57/216 and Corr.1.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with an overview of the challenges and constraints to, as well as the progress made towards, the achievement of the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the past decade;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

RESOLUTION 57/247

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.2, para. 5)[70]

57/247. Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 47/187 of 22 December 1992, 48/181 of 21 December 1993, 49/106 of 19 December 1994, 51/175 of 6 December 1996, 53/179 of 15 December 1998 and 55/191 of 20 December 2000,

Reaffirming also the importance of the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development[71] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[72]

Reaffirming further the need for the full integration of the countries with economies in transition into the world economy,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,[73]

Noting the progress made in those countries towards achieving macroeconomic and financial stability and economic growth in the course of structural reforms and the need to sustain those positive trends in the future,

Noting also that in some economies in transition progress has been more difficult and that international assistance is still needed to support their efforts in further building solid social and economic institutions, and to ensure that they are fully integrated into the world economy,

Recognizing the difficulties faced by the countries with economies in transition in responding adequately to the challenges of globalization, including in the field of information and communication technologies, and the need to enhance their capacity to utilize effectively the benefits and mitigate the negative implications of globalization,

Recognizing also the continuing need to ensure favourable conditions for market access of exports from countries with economies in transition, in accordance with multilateral trade agreements,

Recognizing further the important role foreign direct investment should play in those countries, and stressing the need to create an enabling environment, both domestically and internationally, to attract more foreign direct investment to those countries,

Noting the aspiration of the countries with economies in transition towards the further development of regional and interregional cooperation,

1. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the organizations of the United Nations system to implement General Assembly resolutions on the integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

2. *Calls upon* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in collaboration with relevant non-United Nations multilateral and regional institutions, to continue to conduct analytical activities and provide policy advice and technical assistance to the Governments of the countries with economies in transition aimed at strengthening the social, legal and political framework for completing market-oriented reforms with a view to sustaining the positive trends and reversing any declines in the economic and social development of those countries, and, in this regard, emphasizes the importance of their further integration into the world economy, taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[71] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[74] and

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[70] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

[71] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[72] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[73] A/57/288.

[74] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation");[75]

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with particular focus on an analysis that would determine the progress achieved in the integration of countries with economies in transition into the world economy.

RESOLUTION 57/248

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.3, para. 9)[76]

57/248. Year of Kyrgyz Statehood

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Recalling also its resolution 49/129 of 19 December 1994 on the commemoration of the millennium of the Kyrgyz national epic, *Manas*,

Recalling further its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001 on the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage, 2002,

Stressing the importance of promoting education and raising public awareness in order to foster respect for national cultures, the cultural heritage of the world and civilizational diversity, which is essential for strengthening global peace and implementing international cooperation,

Noting the richness of Kyrgyz culture and its national, regional and international significance,

1. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to declare 2003 as the Year of Kyrgyz Statehood and to organize activities in celebration of the Year;

2. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other international and intergovernmental organizations, as well as regional and non-governmental organizations and foundations, to take part in the events being organized by the Kyrgyz Republic to celebrate the year 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/249

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.3, para. 9)[77]

57/249. Culture and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998 and 55/192 of 20 December 2000 on culture and development,

Encouraged by the positive international response to the results of the work of the World Commission on Culture and Development and of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Stockholm from 30 March to 2 April 1998,

Recalling its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, by which it proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

Recalling also its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations containing the Programme of Action and the objectives, principles and participants thereof, and recognizing that, in the light of recent events, the United Nations should give greater weight and visibility to the theme of dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, since the protection of cultural diversity is closely linked to the larger framework of the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and its ability to achieve genuine mutual understanding, solidarity and cooperation,

Encouraged by the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"), adopted on 4 September 2002,[78] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development, also adopted on 4 September 2002,[79] which urges the promotion of dialogue and cooperation among the world's civilizations and peoples, irrespective of race, disabilities, religion, language, culture or tradition,

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[75] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[76] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Gabon, Georgia, Greece, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United States of America and Yemen.

[77] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[78] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[79] Ibid., resolution 1, annex.

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, are mutually supportive, and recognizing that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity, sustainable development and global peaceful coexistence,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the implementation of resolution 55/192;[80]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the adoption by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the medium-term strategy for 2002–2007, which directs the work of the organization on two cross-cutting themes, namely, the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and the contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society, and is based upon the notion that culture may contribute effectively to the reduction of poverty;

3. *Welcomes* the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, adopted by the General Conference at its thirty-first session on 2 November 2001,[81] and also welcomes the main lines of the Action Plan[82] for the implementation of the Declaration appended thereto;

4. *Proclaims* 21 May the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, echoing the World Day for Cultural Development commemorated during the World Decade for Cultural Development;

5. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations:

(*a*) To ensure, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the implementation of the Action Plan;

(*b*) To implement the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace adopted by the General Assembly, respectively, in its resolutions 53/243 A and B of 13 September 1999;

(*c*) To implement the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations contained in section B of resolution 56/6;

(*d*) To implement relevant provisions on cultural diversity of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[78] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development;[79]

(*e*) To strengthen international cooperation and solidarity in supporting national efforts of developing countries:

(i) To gain access to new technologies;

(ii) To receive help in mastering information technologies with a view to encouraging the production, safeguarding and dissemination of diversified contents in the media and global information networks, and, to that end, to promote the role of public radio and television services in the development of audio-visual productions of good quality, in particular by fostering the establishment of cooperative mechanisms to facilitate their distribution;

(iii) To establish cultural industries that are viable and competitive at the national and international levels, in the face of the current imbalance in the flow and exchange of cultural goods at the global level;

(*f*) To assist in the emergence or consolidation of cultural industries in the developing countries, and, to that end, to cooperate in developing the necessary infrastructures and skills, fostering the emergence of viable local markets;

(*g*) To acknowledge the importance of preserving and developing cultural heritage, including by encouraging the strengthening of domestic policies in the fields of protection, incentive and promotion of the various cultures, mainly the most vulnerable;

(*h*) To formulate policies pertaining to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, taking into account, in particular, resolution 56/8, by which the Assembly proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

(*i*) To assess the interconnection between culture and development and the elimination of poverty in the context of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006);

(*j*) To raise public awareness of the value and importance of cultural diversity, and, in particular, to encourage, through education and the media, knowledge of the positive value of cultural diversity, inter alia, as regards languages;

(*k*) Within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and based on the main lines of the Action Plan,[82] to strengthen efforts towards the prioritization of the adoption of national policies that recognize the contribution of traditional knowledge, particularly with regard to environmental protection and the management of natural resources, fostering synergies between modern science and local knowledge and recognizing the traditional and direct dependence on renewable resources and ecosystems, including in the form of sustainable harvesting, that is essential to the cultural, economic and physical well-being of indigenous people and their communities;

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[80] See A/57/226.

[81] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[82] Ibid., annex II.

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its work to promote greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development and the important role of information and communication technologies in this relationship;

7. *Also encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support, upon request, to developing countries, in particular as regards national capacity-building and access to information and communication technologies, for the implementation of international cultural conventions, including with regard to conservation of heritage and the protection of cultural property, and for the return or restitution of cultural property, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/97 of 14 December 2001, on the return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/250

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/531/Add.4, para. 7)[83]

57/250. High-Level Dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/165 of 21 December 1993, 49/95 of 19 December 1994, 50/122 of 20 December 1995, 51/174 of 16 December 1996, 52/186 of 18 December 1997, 53/181 of 15 December 1998, 54/213 of 22 December 1999, 55/193 of 20 December 2000 and 56/190 of 21 December 2001,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General entitled "High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership",[84]

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, which was adopted on 22 March 2002,[85]

Recalling also the commitment to strengthen and make fuller use of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for the purposes of conference follow-up and coordination,

Reaffirming the importance of continuing the dialogue to be conducted in response to the imperative of solidarity, mutual interests and benefits, genuine interdependence and partnership in promoting international economic cooperation for development, and that the United Nations system should reinforce its activities in order to facilitate such a dialogue,

Stressing the importance of staying fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and to continue to build bridges between development, finance and trade organizations and initiatives, within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference,

Stressing also the importance of substantively connecting, in ascending order, the spring high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, which will address the issue of coherence, coordination and cooperation, and the reconstituted High-Level Dialogue in the General Assembly, which will serve as the focal point for the follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and will include a policy dialogue on the implementation of the results of the Conference, including the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development,

Recognizing the link between financing for development and attaining internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[86] in measuring development progress and helping to guide development priorities, as well as achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development, bearing in mind the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[87]

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[84] A/57/388.

[85] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[86] See resolution 55/2.

[87] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

1. *Stresses* that the High-Level Dialogue, as the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues, should contribute to promoting coherence among policies of development, finance and monetary and trade organizations within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference with respect to eradicating poverty and achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development and an equitable global economic system;

2. *Decides* to reconstitute the current high-level dialogue on strengthening international cooperation for development through partnership as the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development so that it may become the intergovernmental focal point for the general follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development and related issues;

3. *Also decides* to hold the High-Level Dialogue biennially at the ministerial level;

4. *Agrees* to hold the High-Level Dialogue at the end of October 2003 on a specific date to be determined by the President of the General Assembly, after consultations with relevant stakeholders, so as to facilitate ministerial participation and the participation of heads of international financial and trade institutions and other relevant organizations;

5. *Decides* that the overall theme of the High-Level Dialogue will be "The Monterrey Consensus: status of implementation and tasks ahead";

6. *Also decides* that the duration of the High-Level Dialogue will be two days and that it will consist of an innovative series of plenary and informal meetings to constitute a policy dialogue and interactive round tables with the participation of the relevant stakeholders. The Dialogue should be well prepared, including through appropriate intergovernmental consultations. The two days will consist of:

(*a*) The first day, devoted to informal meetings for eight interactive round tables, with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, following the format applied for the Monterrey Conference round tables as applicable, divided into two sessions, each comprising four round tables of thirty-five participants with the following two themes:

- One for consideration of the regional dimensions of the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development, with participation of the heads of regional commissions and regional development banks, and other stakeholders;
- The other to explore the link between the progress in the implementation of the agreements and commitments reached at the International Conference on Financing for Development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, in particular those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[86] and the promotion of sustainable development, sustained economic growth and the eradication of poverty with a view to achieving an equitable global economic system;

(*b*) The second day, consisting of formal and informal meetings, constituting a policy dialogue with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, chaired by the President of the General Assembly, on the implementation of the results of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the theme of coherence and consistency of the international monetary, financial and trading systems in support of development, which will also consider the collaborative tasks ahead. The Secretary-General and the heads of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme as the Chairman of the United Nations Development Group, as well as one representative of the regional development banks, will be invited to make introductory statements. An interactive dialogue will follow during an informal meeting, on the understanding that the principle of precedence will be strictly applied, allowing participation at the ministerial level. The heads of regional and international intergovernmental organs that participated in the Monterrey Conference will be able to intervene. One representative from civil society and one representative from the business sector, selected by accredited participants among themselves, will also be able to intervene;

7. *Further decides* to hold, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, one day of informal hearings with representatives of civil society and the business sector accredited to the Dialogue, and requests the Secretariat to submit a summary of those hearings as an input to the discussions to be held at the Dialogue;

8. *Decides* that a resolution on the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development will be adopted by the General Assembly based, inter alia, on the outcome of the High-Level Dialogue and its preparatory process, and in this regard, as inputs to the resolution, requests the President of the General Assembly to issue a summary of the policy dialogue and the co-Chairpersons of individual round tables to issue summaries of each round-table discussion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit, prior to the High-Level Dialogue, an issues paper containing an annotated agenda and programme of work to assist in organizing the Dialogue;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available at the High-Level Dialogue relevant inputs related to financing for development from all stakeholders, including the documents of the Economic and Social Council covering its

annual spring high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization and relevant work at its substantive session, the annual report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up efforts to the commitments of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Millennium Declaration;

11. *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders at all levels to support adequate preparations for the High-Level Dialogue on financing for development;

12. *Invites* the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization as well as relevant organizations of the United Nations system to participate in the High-Level Dialogue, including in the preparatory phase, and invites the President of the Economic and Social Council, the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the Director-General of the World Trade Organization and the heads of other relevant regional and international intergovernmental organs to participate actively in the Dialogue;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with all relevant entities of the United Nations, including the regional commissions, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the United Nations Development Programme, in consultation with the regional development banks, other relevant regional entities, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, to support regional consultations in preparations for the High-Level Dialogue;

14. *Invites* Governments to enhance coordination among ministries of foreign affairs, finance, development cooperation and trade, as well as central banks and all other national stakeholders, for the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus[85] and related issues and the follow-up thereto, including preparations for the High-Level Dialogue;

15. *Encourages* greater participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities at the interactive round tables and informal meetings of the plenary of the High-Level Dialogue in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, and decides that:

(*a*) Accreditation will be open to:

(i) All non-governmental organizations that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council;

(ii) All non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that were accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(*b*) Interested non-governmental organizations and business sector entities that are not in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or were not accredited to the International Conference on Financing for Development shall apply to the General Assembly for accreditation following the accreditation procedure established during the International Conference on Financing for Development;[88]

(*c*) The above arrangements concerning participation of non-governmental organizations and business sector entities in the High-Level Dialogue will in no way create a precedent for other meetings of the General Assembly;

16. *Notes* that the successfully reconstituted High-Level Dialogue may provide useful experiences for the integrated and coordinated follow-up to conferences;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under an item entitled "Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development", a sub-item entitled "High-Level Dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it, before the end of its fifty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/251

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.7, para. 10)[89]

57/251. Report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2997 (XXVII) of 15 December 1972, by which it established the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 56/193 of 21 December 2001 on the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its twenty-first session,

Having considered the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session,[90]

Taking into account the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[91]

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[88] See resolutions 54/279 and 55/245 B.

[89] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[90] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/57/25).

[91] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

Recalling that in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation the General Assembly was invited to consider, at its fifty-seventh session, the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme,

Underlining the unique role of the General Assembly, as the highest intergovernmental decision-making body of the United Nations, in giving consideration to the issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum of the United Nations Environment Programme and, therefore, the need for a thorough analysis by Member States and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to enable the General Assembly to fully consider all its implications, including legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, before making a decision,

Reaffirming the role of the United Nations Environment Programme as the principal body within the United Nations system in the field of environment, which should take into account, within its mandate, the sustainable development needs of developing countries as well as countries with economies in transition,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme on its seventh special session,[90] and the decisions contained therein;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Open-ended Intergovernmental Group of Ministers or Their Representatives on International Environmental Governance for its report as adopted by the Governing Council at its seventh special session;[92]

3. *Recalls* the decision made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development[93] to fully implement the outcomes of decision SS.VII/1 on international environmental governance adopted by the Governing Council at its seventh special session;[90]

4. *Invites* Member States, the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme, and the relevant bodies of the United Nations system to submit to the Secretariat their comments on the important but complex issue of establishing universal membership for the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum, including its legal, political, institutional, financial and system-wide implications, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report incorporating those views to the General Assembly for its consideration before its sixtieth session;

5. *Reiterates its desire* to be informed on the work of the Environmental Management Group;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to sustainable development programmes and the implementation of Agenda 21[94] at all levels, bearing in mind the mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development;

7. *Reiterates* the need for stable, adequate and predictable financial resources for the United Nations Environment Programme, and in this regard and in accordance with resolution 2997 (XXVII) underlines the need to consider adequate reflection of all administrative and management costs of the Programme in the context of the United Nations regular budget;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Environment Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery, in an effective manner, of necessary services to the Programme and to other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi.

RESOLUTION 57/252

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.7, para. 10)[95]

57/252. Activities undertaken in preparation for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/196 of 20 December 2000, in which it proclaimed 2003 the International Year of Freshwater, and its resolution 56/192 of 21 December 2001 on the status of preparations for the International Year of Freshwater, 2003,

Recalling also the provisions of Agenda 21,[96] the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, adopted by the General Assembly at its nineteenth special session,[97] decisions of the Commission on Sustainable

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[92] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 25* (A/57/25), annex I, decision SS.VII/1, appendix.

[93] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 140 (d).

[94] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[95] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[96] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[97] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

Development at its sixth session,[98] relating to freshwater, and those contained in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[99]

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

Recalling the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to launch programmes of action, with financial and technical assistance, to achieve the Millennium Development Goal on safe drinking water, namely, to halve by 2015 the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water, as outlined in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[100] and the goal of the Summit to halve the proportion of people without access to basic sanitation,[101]

Recalling also its resolution 53/199 of 15 December 1998 on the proclamation of international years,

Noting the efforts made in preparation for the Third World Water Forum and International Ministerial Conference, to be held in Japan in March 2003, and for the elaboration of the "World Water Development Report",

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[102]

1. *Welcomes* the activities undertaken by States, the Secretariat, and the organizations, programmes and funds of the United Nations system that are engaged in inter-agency work related to freshwater and by major groups in preparation for the observance of the International Year of Freshwater, and encourages them to continue their efforts;

2. *Encourages* all Member States, relevant international organizations and major groups to support activities related to the Year, inter alia, through voluntary contributions, and to link their relevant activities to the Year;

3. *Encourages* Member States, the United Nations system and major groups to take advantage of the Year to raise awareness of the essential importance of freshwater resources for satisfying basic human needs and for health and food production and the preservation of ecosystems, as well as for economic and social development in general, and to promote action at the local, national, regional and international levels, and calls for high priority to be given to the serious freshwater problems facing many regions, especially in the developing countries;

4. *Encourages* voluntary partnerships among Member States, international organizations and major groups to promote activities related to the Year;

5. *Calls upon* Member States that have not already done so to create national committees or designate focal points in their respective countries to facilitate and promote activities related to the Year at the local and national levels;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to promote closer coordination to elaborate and support proposals and undertake activities related to the Year;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/253

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.1, para. 10)[103]

57/253. World Summit on Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/199 of 20 December 2000 and 56/226 of 24 December 2001,

Recalling also the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,[104] Agenda 21[105] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,[106]

Having considered the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[107]

Reaffirming, in this regard, the commitment to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[108] and in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and international agreements since 1992,

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[98] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 9* (E/1998/29).

[99] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[100] See resolution 55/2, para. 19.

[101] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 25.

[102] A/57/132.

[103] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[104] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[105] Ibid., annex II.

[106] Resolution S-19/2, annex.

[107] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum).

[108] See resolution 55/2.

Welcoming the adoption by the Summit of the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[109] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation")[110] on 4 September 2002,

Expressing its satisfaction that the Summit and its Preparatory Committee provided for the active participation of all States Members of the United Nations and members of the specialized agencies, observers and various intergovernmental organizations, including the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, at the highest level, as well as the major groups representing all the regions of the world,

Reaffirming the need to ensure a balance between economic development, social development and environmental protection as interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development,

Reaffirming also that poverty eradication, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development,

Recognizing that good governance within each country and at the international level is essential for sustainable development,

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Governments and the peoples of Indonesia and South Africa for hosting, respectively, the fourth Preparatory Committee meeting and the Summit, for the excellent arrangements, for the hospitality extended to participants and for the facilities, staff and services placed at their disposal,

1. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development;[107]

2. *Endorses* the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[109] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[110]

3. *Decides* to adopt sustainable development as a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities, in particular for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[108] and to give overall political direction to the implementation of Agenda 21[105] and its review;

4. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, the Economic and Social Council, United Nations funds, programmes and regional economic commissions, specialized agencies, international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely actions to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

5. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and calls for further discussion of this matter within the Commission on Sustainable Development;

6. *Calls* for the implementation of the commitments, programmes and time-bound targets adopted at the Summit and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions of the means of implementation, as contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

7. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to ensure that the Commission on Sustainable Development holds an organizational meeting of its next session in January 2003 and its session in April/May 2003;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report containing proposals on the modalities of the future work of the Commission, taking into account the decisions contained in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;

9. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to implement the provisions of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation relevant to its mandate and, in particular, to promote the implementation of Agenda 21 by strengthening system-wide coordination;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into full account the outcomes of the Summit, in particular the decisions made on the institutional framework for sustainable development as contained in chapter XI of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, in the ongoing process of reform of the United Nations and in his contribution to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development", and requests the Secretary-General, at that session, to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[109] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[110] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

RESOLUTION 57/254

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.1, para. 10)[111]

57/254. United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling chapter 36 of Agenda 21, on promoting education, public awareness and training, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992,[112]

Reaffirming the internationally agreed development goal of achieving universal primary education, in particular that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling,

Appreciating the contribution made by the Commission on Sustainable Development to the issue of education for sustainable development since the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development,

Welcoming the fact that the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation") confirmed the importance of education for sustainable development and recommended that the General Assembly consider adopting a decade of education for sustainable development starting in 2005,[113]

Emphasizing that education is an indispensable element for achieving sustainable development,

1. *Decides* to proclaim the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2005 the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development;

2. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency for the promotion of the Decade, and requests it to develop a draft international implementation scheme, clarifying its relationship with the existing educational processes, in particular the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum[114] and the United Nations Literacy Decade,[115] in consultation with the United Nations and other relevant international organizations, Governments, non-governmental organizations and other stakeholders, with a view to providing recommendations for Governments on how to promote and improve the integration of education for sustainable development in their respective educational strategies and action plans at the appropriate level;

3. *Invites* Governments to consider the inclusion of measures to implement the Decade in their respective educational strategies and action plans by 2005, taking into account the international implementation scheme to be prepared by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development".

RESOLUTION 57/255

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.2, para. 14)[116]

57/255. International cooperation to reduce the impact of the El Niño phenomenon

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/200 of 18 December 1997, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/220 of 22 December 1999, 55/197 of 20 December 2000 and 56/194 of 21 December 2001 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46 of 28 July 1999, 1999/63 of 30 July 1999 and 2000/33 of 28 July 2000,

Reaffirming the importance of developing strategies at the national, subregional, regional and international levels that aim to prevent, mitigate and repair the damage caused by natural disasters that result from the El Niño phenomenon,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[117] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[118]

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[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[112] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[113] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[114] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[115] See resolution 56/116.

[116] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[117] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[119]

2. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Government of Ecuador, in cooperation with the World Meteorological Organization and the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, towards the establishment of the International Centre for the Study of the El Niño Phenomenon at Guayaquil, Ecuador, and the announcement made regarding its opening in January 2003, and encourages all parties to continue their joint efforts for the development of the Centre;

3. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and the relevant funds, programmes and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular those taking part in the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction, and encourages the international community, to adopt, as appropriate, the necessary measures to support the establishment of the above-mentioned research Centre at Guayaquil, and invites the international community to provide scientific, technical and financial assistance and cooperation for this purpose, as well as to strengthen, as appropriate, other centres devoted to the study of the El Niño phenomenon;

4. *Encourages* the Centre, once established, to strengthen its links, as appropriate, with national meteorological and hydrologic services of the Latin American region, the Permanent Commission for the South Pacific, the Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research and the International Research Institute for Climate Prediction, as well as with other relevant regional and global organizations that study climate, such as the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, the African Centre of Meteorological Applications for Development, the Drought Monitoring Centre and the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research, and other relevant centres as appropriate, in order to ensure the effective and efficient use of the available resources;

5. *Invites* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction, to ensure that measures needed to address more effectively extreme meteorological and hydrologic events like the El Niño phenomenon are considered appropriately in the 2004 review of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action;[120]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue the full implementation of its resolutions 52/200, 53/185, 54/220, 55/197 and 56/194 and Economic and Social Council resolutions 1999/46, 1999/63 and 2000/33;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

RESOLUTION 57/256

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.2, para. 14)[121]

57/256. International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999 and 56/195 of 21 December 2001 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2001/35 of 26 July 2001,

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieving jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recalling that the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction is on the second Wednesday of October,

Recalling also the results, including the lessons learned, of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, outlined in the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction and the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",[122]

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[118] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[119] A/57/189.

[120] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[121] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

Stressing the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters, in line with their respective skills and capacities, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, inter alia, through capacity-building at all levels, where appropriate within the framework for action for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,[123]

Stressing also the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters,

Recognizing the urgent need to further develop and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively,

Recognizing also the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capacity to cope with disaster risks,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[124] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[125]

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[126]

2. *Welcomes* the memorandum of understanding signed between the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the United Nations Development Programme, and encourages the secretariat to pursue the establishment of similar arrangements with other international organizations in order to improve synergies and clarify respective roles;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, to provide specific proposals to Member States for the implementation of the actions on this matter agreed to by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in its Plan of Implementation;[125]

4. *Decides* to take a decision on how to conclude the review of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action[127] at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy, to plan and coordinate, in consultation with Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, the 2004 review of the Yokohama Strategy and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session in this regard;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources, within existing resources, for the effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy;

7. *Encourages* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide the necessary scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the activities of the inter-agency secretariat for the Strategy and the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction and its working groups;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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[122] Adopted at the programme forum on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999.

[123] A/56/68–E/2001/63 and Corr.1, para. 14.

[124] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[125] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[126] A/57/190.

[127] A/CONF.172/9, chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

RESOLUTION 57/257

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.3, para. 16)[128]

57/257. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/222 of 22 December 1999, its decision 55/443 of 20 December 2000 and its resolution 56/199 of 21 December 2001 and other resolutions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of mankind,

Noting that most States and one regional economic integration organization have acceded to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[129]

Recalling the provisions of the Convention, including the acknowledgement that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation by all countries and their participation in an effective and appropriate international response, in accordance with their common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities and their social and economic conditions,

Taking into account the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held at New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,

Remaining deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, face increased risks from the negative impacts of climate change,

Noting that, to date, the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[130] has attracted ninety-seven ratifications,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[131] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[132]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of India for hosting the eighth session of the Conference of the Parties at New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[133]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[134] in which heads of State and Government resolved to make every effort to ensure the entry into force of the Kyoto Protocol, preferably by the tenth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in 2002, and to embark on the required reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases,[135]

1. *Calls upon* States to work cooperatively towards achieving the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;[129]

2. *Notes* that States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[130] strongly urge the States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner;

3. *Takes note* of the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session;

4. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[136] and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[137] and encourages cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

5. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change to report in a timely manner to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties;

6. *Invites* the conferences of the parties to the multilateral environmental conventions, when setting the dates of their meetings, to take into consideration the schedule of meetings of the General Assembly and the Commission on

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[128] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[129] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[130] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[131] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[132] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[133] See A/57/359.

[134] See resolution 55/2.

[135] Ibid., para. 23.

[136] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[137] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Sustainable Development so as to ensure the adequate representation of developing countries at those meetings;

7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind".

RESOLUTION 57/258

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.3, para. 16)[138]

57/258. World Climate Change Conference

The General Assembly,

Acknowledging that change in the earth's climate and its adverse effects are a common concern of humankind,

Acknowledging also that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible cooperation, consistent with the provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[139]

Welcoming the ongoing work in the United Nations system on climate change, in particular within the framework of the Convention, which is the key instrument for addressing this global concern,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[140] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[141]

Taking into account also the Delhi Ministerial Declaration on Climate Change and Sustainable Development, adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change at its eighth session, held at New Delhi from 23 October to 1 November 2002,

Recognizing with concern the findings of the third assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change,[142] in which the Panel confirmed that significant cuts in global emissions will be necessary to meet the ultimate objective of the Convention, and recognizing the ongoing consideration by the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice of the implications of the report,

Reaffirming the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, in which States that have ratified the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change[143] strongly urge States that have not yet done so to ratify it in a timely manner,[144]

Recognizing the need for strengthening scientific and technological capabilities and networks for the exchange of scientific data and information,

Stressing that the World Climate Change Conference will be supportive of the Convention process,

Noting the importance of broad participation in this process by Governments, parliaments, international and national organizations, the scientific community, the private sector and other representatives of civil society,

1. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Government of the Russian Federation to convene the World Climate Change Conference at Moscow from 29 September to 3 October 2003 as a forum for the exchange of views among the scientific community, Governments, parliaments, international and national organizations, the private sector and other representatives of civil society and for facilitating the implementation of existing policies related to climate change;

2. *Encourages* Member States and relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, as well as other international and national organizations, parliaments, the scientific community, the private sector and other representatives of civil society, to participate actively in the Conference;

3. *Invites* Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Conference in order to increase awareness of the importance of international efforts to address climate change.

RESOLUTION 57/259

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.4, para. 9)[145]

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[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[139] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[140] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[141] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[142] *Climate Change 2001* (Cambridge, United Kingdom, Cambridge University Press, July 2001 and March 2002), four volumes.

[143] FCCC/CP/1997/7/Add.1, decision 1/CP.3, annex.

[144] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 38.

[145] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

57/259. Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/196 of 21 December 2001 and other resolutions relating to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[146]

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Italy for the organization of the first session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention in Rome, at the headquarters of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, from 11 to 22 November 2002,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[147] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[148]

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

Welcoming the outcomes of the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, held in Beijing from 16 to 18 October 2002, particularly the decision on making land degradation, primarily desertification and deforestation, a new focal area of the Facility,

Recognizing the strong commitment of the international community, demonstrated at the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, to make the Facility available as a financial mechanism of the Convention, pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, and in this regard encourages the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as the supreme body of the Convention, to take the appropriate decision to that effect at its next ordinary session in 2003,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Cuba to host the sixth ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held at Havana from 25 August to 5 September 2003,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[149]

2. *Welcomes* the decision taken by the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility that the Facility shall be available to serve as a financial mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[146] pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, if the Conference of the Parties to the Convention should so decide, and in this regard notes with satisfaction that the Assembly of the Global Environment Facility has requested the Council of the Facility to consider any such decision of the Conference of the Parties with a view to making the necessary arrangements;

3. *Invites* the Conference of the Parties at its sixth session, in response to the call of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the decision of the Second Assembly of the Global Environment Facility, to consider making the Facility a financial mechanism of the Convention as a means of promoting the availability of financial mechanisms, pursuant to article 21 of the Convention, while recognizing the complementary roles of the Facility and the Global Mechanism in providing and mobilizing resources for the elaboration and implementation of action programmes;

4. *Encourages* the Conference of the Parties and the Council and Assembly of the Global Environment Facility to continue to collaborate closely and effectively to facilitate the financing of the successful implementation of the Convention by supporting financial mechanisms such as the Facility, so as to fully achieve the objectives of the Convention;

5. *Invites* the Council of the Global Environment Facility at its May 2003 meeting to finalize and adopt the operational programme for land degradation, particularly desertification and deforestation;

6. *Emphasizes* that, in the light of the ongoing assessment of the implementation of the Convention, the affected developing countries that are parties to the Convention need the full and effective support of the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, and other partners for capacity-building and other activities which assist them in meeting their obligations under the Convention;

7. *Welcomes* the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility Trust Fund which will provide additional resources necessary to enable the Facility to continue to be responsive to the needs and concerns of its recipient countries;

8. *Calls upon* all countries and other entities in a position to do so to make additional contributions to the Global Environment Facility;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the increased number of developing countries that are parties to the Convention and that have adopted their national, subregional and regional action programmes, and urges the affected parties that have not yet done so to accelerate the process of elaboration and adoption of

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[146] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[147] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[148] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[149] A/57/177.

their action programmes, with a view to finalizing them as soon as possible;

10. *Invites* affected developing countries to place the implementation of their action programmes to combat desertification high among their priorities in their dialogue with their development partners;

11. *Notes with satisfaction* the steps being taken by affected developing countries that are parties to the Convention, with the assistance of international organizations and bilateral development partners, to implement the Convention and the efforts being made to promote the participation of all actors of civil society in the elaboration and implementation of national action programmes to combat desertification, and in that regard encourages countries to cooperate at the subregional and regional levels, as appropriate;

12. *Welcomes* the strengthened cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the Global Mechanism, and encourages further efforts in that regard for the effective implementation of the Convention;

13. *Calls upon* the international community to continue to contribute to the implementation of action programmes through, inter alia, the conclusion of partnership agreements as well as the bilateral and multilateral cooperation programmes that are available to implement the Convention, including contributions from non-governmental organizations and the private sector, and to support the efforts of the developing countries to implement the Convention;

14. *Invites* all parties to pay promptly and in full the contributions required for the core budget of the Convention for the biennium 2002–2003, and urges all parties that have not yet paid their contributions for the year 1999 and/or the biennium 2000–2001 to do so as soon as possible in order to ensure continuity in the cash flow required to finance the ongoing work of the Conference of the Parties, the secretariat and the Global Mechanism;

15. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[150] the Convention to Combat Desertification and the Convention on Biological Diversity,[151] and encourages continuing cooperation to promote complementarities among the three secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

16. *Invites* the United Nations Development Programme to implement decision 2000/23 of 29 September 2000 of its Executive Board,[152] pertaining to the cooperation between the secretariat of the Convention and the United Nations Development Programme, in order to mainstream activities to combat desertification at the national, subregional and regional levels;

17. *Calls upon* Governments, and invites multilateral financial institutions, regional development banks, regional economic integration organizations and all other interested organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to contribute generously to the General Fund, the Supplementary Fund and the Special Fund, in accordance with the relevant paragraphs of the financial rules of the Conference of the Parties,[153] and welcomes the financial support already provided by some countries;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa".

RESOLUTION 57/260

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.5, para. 7)[154]

57/260. Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000 and 56/197 of 21 December 2001 on the Convention on Biological Diversity,[155]

Reaffirming that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Underlining the importance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, their development and wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, their protection subject to national legislation, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their commercial use, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

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[150] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

[151] Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

[152] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 15* (E/2000/35), part four.

[153] ICCD/COP (1)/11/Add.1 and Corr.1, decision 2/COP.1, annex, paras. 7–11.

[154] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[155] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[156] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[157]

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for hosting the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held at The Hague from 7 to 26 April 2002,

Also expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Malaysia to host the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur in 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly;[158]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[159] hosted by the Government of the Netherlands from 7 to 19 April 2002;

3. *Also notes* the outcome of the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held at The Hague from 22 to 26 April 2002;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that one hundred eighty-five States and one regional economic integration organization have become parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[155] and urges States that have not joined the Convention to become parties to it;

5. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity[160] as soon as possible;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of the decision of the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization to examine, through the World Trade Organization Council for Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, the relationship between the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[161] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the protection of traditional knowledge;

7. *Recalls* the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries and includes actions at all levels, and in this regard calls upon the international community to provide the necessary support to developing countries, and stresses the importance of the effective use of resources;

8. *Also recalls* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to negotiate within the framework of the Convention on Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines,[162] an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources. And invites the Conference of the Parties to take appropriate steps in this regard;

9. *Further recalls* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to implement the expanded action-oriented work programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity on all types of forest biological diversity, in close cooperation with the United Nations Forum on Forests, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other forest-related processes and conventions, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders;

10. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[163] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or

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[156] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[157] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[158] See A/57/220.

[159] Bearing in mind the procedural concerns of some States relating to decision VI/23, and in this regard noting the deliberations and decisions of the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to addressing these concerns at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see paras. 294–324 of the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the minutes of the meeting of the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, held in Montreal, Canada, on 23 and 24 September 2002).

[160] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[161] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1869, No. 31874.

[162] Bonn Guidelines on Access to Genetic Resources and Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising out of their Utilization (decision VI/24 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).

[163] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Desertification, particularly in Africa[164] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and encourages continued cooperation to promote complementarities among the secretariats, while respecting their independent legal status;

11. *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue to work closely with the Global Environment Facility and other relevant institutions to help developing countries to build the required national capacities to prepare for the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, including in the areas of risk assessment and risk management;

12. *Welcomes* the launching of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing House, and calls for strengthened international support for developing countries to build their national capacities to interact with it and to benefit from its expeditious strengthening so that it becomes fully functional at the time of the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for a substantial increase in financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in this regard welcomes the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;

14. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

RESOLUTION 57/261

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.6, para. 14)[165]

57/261. Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[166] and the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados[167] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[168] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[169]

Taking into account all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999 and 55/203 of 20 December 2000,

Taking into account also the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[170] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[171]

Noting with interest the respective partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by Governments, international organizations and major groups and announced at the Summit,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[172] which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character,

Conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,[173]

Recalling the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region, signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on

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[164] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[166] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[167] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[168] Ibid., annex II.

[169] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[170] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[171] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[172] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[173] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

24 March 1983,[174] which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Welcoming the adoption, on 6 October 1999 in Aruba, of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities[175] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,

Welcoming also the entry into force, on 18 June 2000, of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife[175] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change and climate variability, associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Underlining the importance of the ongoing work of the working group on climate change and natural disasters established by the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction,

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Recognizing the Caribbean Environment Outlook process currently being undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme, and welcoming the support being provided by the Caribbean Environment Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme towards its implementation,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of resolutions GC(44)/RES/17 of 22 September 2000[176] and GC(46)RES/9 of 20 September 2002[177] of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,

Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the efforts of the Caribbean countries, within the framework of the Association of Caribbean States, to develop further support for their concept of the Caribbean Sea as an area of special importance, in the context of sustainable development and in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

Welcoming the decision by the Association of Caribbean States to establish the Working Group of Experts on the Caribbean Sea Initiative to further advance the implementation of resolution 55/203, inter alia, through the preparation of a technical report,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and its importance to the heritage and the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[178]

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[174] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[175] Available on the Internet at www.cep.unep.org/law/sub_law/htm.

[176] See International Atomic Energy Agency, *Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18–22 September 2000* (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000)).

[177] Ibid., *Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16–20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC(2002)).

[178] A/57/131.

2. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

3. *Encourages* the further promotion of an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, in accordance with the recommendations contained in resolution 54/225, as well as the provisions of Agenda 21,[173] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[168] the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,[169] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[170] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[171] and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[172]

4. *Also encourages* the continued efforts of the Caribbean countries to develop further an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development and, in this regard, to continue to develop regional cooperation in the management of their ocean affairs in the context of sustainable development, in order to address such issues as land-based pollution, pollution from ships, physical impacts on coral reefs and the diversity and dynamic interaction of, and competition among, socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources;

5. *Calls upon* States to continue to prioritize action on marine pollution from land-based sources as part of their national sustainable development strategies and programmes, in an integrated and inclusive manner, and also calls upon them to advance the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[179] and the Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities;[180]

6. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, and from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

7. *Calls upon* all relevant States to take the necessary steps to bring into force, and to support the implementation of, the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities[173] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region[174] in order to protect the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from land-based pollution and degradation;

8. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the Working Group of Experts on the Caribbean Sea Initiative of the Association of Caribbean States to further implement resolution 55/203, and invites the Association to submit a report on its progress to the Secretary-General for consideration during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

9. *Calls upon* all States to become contracting parties to relevant international agreements to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution and degradation from ships;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes by strengthening the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism;

11. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity,[181] to develop national, regional and international programmes for halting the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems, such as coral reefs;

12. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue their efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols and to implement them effectively;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the above-mentioned approach;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

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[179] A/51/116, annex II.

[180] E/CN.17/2002/PC.2/15, annex, sect. I.

[181] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

RESOLUTION 57/262

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/532/Add.6, para. 14)[182]

57/262. Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998, the review document adopted by the Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[183] and its resolutions 54/224 of 22 December 1999, 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 55/202 of 20 December 2000 and 56/198 of 21 December 2001, and recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[184] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[185]

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[186] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[187] the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, and the call for the General Assembly to consider convening an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004,

Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[188]

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and emphasizing the importance of issues related to small island developing States within the United Nations system,

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the significant efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system,

Reiterating the importance of the vulnerability index as a tool for assessing, and thereby addressing, the vulnerability of small island developing States, as well as identifying the challenges to their sustainable development,

Recognizing the relevance of such work to the mandate of the Committee for Development Policy concerning criteria for the identification, including designation and graduation, of the least developed countries,

Noting the efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, inter alia, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the technical and financial support of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States, held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[189] as well as the partnership initiatives presented by small island developing States and their organizations during the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Noting in this regard the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the Summit, and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Singapore for hosting the interregional meeting of the Alliance of Small Island States held in preparation for the Summit from 7 to 11 January 2002,

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[182] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[183] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[184] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April–6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[185] Ibid., annex II.

[186] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[187] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[188] TD/390.

[189] See A/S-22/4.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[190]

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[185] and of the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session[183] to assist small island developing States in their efforts to achieve sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Requests* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions and organizations, to undertake concrete measures, within their respective mandates, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action in the context of their programmes;

5. *Decides* to convene an international meeting in 2004, which will include a high-level segment, to undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, as called for in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[191] and welcomes the offer of the Government of Mauritius to host the international meeting;

6. *Also decides* that the comprehensive review referred to in paragraph 5 above should seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to, and should focus on, practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, through the mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;

7. *Further decides* to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional and regional levels and to identify and develop input for the above-mentioned review that is specific to small island developing States, while maximizing coherence and complementarity with respect to other preparatory work;

8. *Welcomes* the initial efforts of the small island developing States to develop the national and regional modalities necessary for the regional preparatory meetings, and calls upon the United Nations system in general and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in particular, as well as the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the multilateral financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, to put in place modalities at the international level that will facilitate the meetings referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above in a timely manner;

9. *Requests* that, in facilitating the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, the United Nations system seek country input that is short and well-focused and that draws upon, inter alia, material prepared for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in order to minimize the burden on participating States while maximizing the usefulness of the information gathered;

10. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eleventh session, to consider its role in the preparatory process for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action;

11. *Invites* all Member States and States members of the specialized agencies, relevant regional and international agencies and organizations and the major groups identified in Agenda 21,[192] in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development[193] and the rules of procedure of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[194] as well as the established practices of the Commission, to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and in the preparations for the comprehensive review;

12. *Invites* all international meetings of relevance to small island developing States, including the regional and interregional meetings of small island developing States, to provide relevant input into the comprehensive review and its preparatory process;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 56/198, to give further consideration to strengthening the Small Island Developing States Unit of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, inter alia, through the regularization of the current post of Interregional Adviser for Small Island Developing States at the earliest opportunity, thereby enabling the Unit to assist in the preparations for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action;

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[190] A/57/131.

[191] See *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 61.

[192] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II. The major groups are women, young people, indigenous people and their communities, non-governmental organizations, local authorities, workers and their trade unions, business and industry, including transnational corporations, the scientific and technological community, and farmers.

[193] See E/5975/Rev.1.

[194] A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1.

14. *Calls* for the participation of associate members of regional commissions in the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action, and in the preparatory process therefore, as observers, in the same capacity specified for their participation in the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, held in 1994, and in the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly, held in 1999 to review the implementation of the Programme of Action;

15. *Decides* to establish a voluntary fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States, including the least developed among them, to participate fully and effectively in the international meeting referred to in paragraph 5 above, as well as in the various preparatory processes referred to in paragraph 7 above, and invites Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the major groups accredited to the Commission on Sustainable Development to contribute to the fund;

16. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, by 2004, the work on the vulnerability index, taking into account the particular circumstances and needs of small island developing States;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/263

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/533, para. 19)[195]

57/263. Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries

The General Assembly,

Stressing that South-South cooperation, as an important element of international cooperation for development, offers viable opportunities for developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Recognizing that developing countries have the primary responsibility for promoting and implementing South-South cooperation, not as a substitute for but rather as a complement to North-South cooperation, and in this context reiterating the need for the international community to support the efforts of the developing countries to expand South-South cooperation,

Taking note of the Ministerial Declaration adopted by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Group of 77 at their twenty-sixth annual meeting, held in New York on 19 September 2002,[196] in which the increased importance and relevance of South-South cooperation were re-emphasized,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on measures to promote and facilitate South-South cooperation;[197]

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that developing countries have succeeded in setting elaborate action plans for South-South cooperation, and urges developing countries and their partners to intensify South-South and triangular initiatives contributing to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[198]

3. *Encourages* developing countries to strengthen their national coordination mechanisms in order to improve the effectiveness of South-South and triangular cooperation, and in this connection also encourages other bilateral and multilateral development partners to do the same, as appropriate;

4. *Reiterates* the urgent need to help to strengthen institutions and centres of excellence in the South, especially at the regional and interregional levels, with a view to making more effective use of such entities towards improved South-South knowledge-sharing, networking, capacity-building, information exchange, policy analysis and coordinated action among developing countries on major issues of common concern;

5. *Recommends* that the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries review all aspects of South-South cooperation relevant to development;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through coordination of the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries of the United Nations Development Programme, and in consultation with Member States and relevant organizations and agencies, to carry out a study, within existing resources, with a view to promoting public awareness of the importance and contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation with respect to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and, in this context, to make concrete proposals to promote and facilitate South-South

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[195] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[196] A/57/444, annex.

[197] A/57/155.

[198] See resolution 55/2.

cooperation and to raise such public awareness, inter alia, on the value added and implications of the proposed international decade on South-South cooperation and the United Nations day for South-South cooperation, and to submit the findings and recommendations thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Reiterates* the emphasis placed in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[199] on the need for multilateral and bilateral financial and development institutions to intensify efforts, inter alia, to strengthen South-South and triangular cooperation as delivery tools for assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition;[200]

8. *Takes note* of decision 2002/18 of 27 September 2002, taken by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund,[201] in which the Board decided to allocate a fixed annual amount of 3.5 million dollars to the Special Unit for Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries;

9. *Calls upon* all relevant United Nations organizations and multilateral institutions to intensify their efforts to effectively mainstream the use of South-South cooperation in the design, formulation and implementation of their regular programmes, and to consider increasing allocations of human, technical and financial resources for South-South cooperation;

10. *Recognizes* the need to mobilize additional resources for enhancing South-South cooperation, and, in this context, invites all countries, in particular developed countries, to contribute in support of such cooperation through, inter alia, the Pérez-Guerrero Trust Fund for Economic and Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries and the Voluntary Trust Fund for the Promotion of South-South Cooperation, bearing in mind the need for these Funds to continue to use such resources in an effective manner, and decides to include the latter fund in the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, as long as it exists;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the agenda of the thirteenth session of the High-level Committee on the Review of Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries a special segment to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Buenos Aires Plan of Action for Promoting and Implementing Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries.[202]

RESOLUTION 57/264

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/533, para. 19)[203]

57/264. *Human Development Report*

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/201 of 21 December 2001 on the triennial policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recalling also its resolution 49/123 of 19 December 1994 on the United Nations Development Programme and the *Human Development Report*,

Reaffirming decisions 94/15 of 10 June 1994[204] and 95/24 of 16 June 1995[205] of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on the *Human Development Report*,

Recognizing that the United Nations Development Programme funds, publishes, launches and promotes the *Human Development Report* and disseminates it internationally,

Acknowledging that the *Human Development Report* is an important tool for raising awareness about human development around the world,

Recalling that the *Human Development Report* is the result of an independent intellectual exercise and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States,

1. *Affirms* that the *Human Development Report* is a separate and distinct exercise which is not an official document of the United Nations and that the policies governing the operational activities for development of the United Nations system will continue to be set by Member States;

2. *Welcomes* decision 2002/18 of 27 September 2002 of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund on

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[199] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[200] Ibid., para. 43.

[201] See DP/2003/2.

[202] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries, Buenos Aires, 30 August–12 September 1978* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.78.II.A.11 and corrigendum), chap. I.

[203] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[204] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 15* (E/1994/35/Rev.1).

[205] Ibid., *1995, Supplement No. 14* (E/1995/34).

programming arrangements for the period 2004–2007, through which a fixed annual amount of regular resources was allocated to finance the Human Development Report Office;

3. *Reaffirms* Executive Board decision 94/15,[204] by which it welcomed the decision of the Administrator to improve the process of consultation with Member States and other relevant international bodies to refine the methodologies used in the *Human Development Report* with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence;

4. *Also reaffirms* that the preparation of the *Human Development Report* should be undertaken in a neutral and transparent manner and in full and effective consultation with Member States, with due regard to the impartial nature and use of sources;

5. *Invites* the Executive Board of United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund to include in its annual work plan as from 2003 a separate agenda item on the Human Development Report to improve the consultation process with Member States regarding the *Human Development Report* with a view to improving its quality and accuracy without compromising its editorial independence and to ensure the full implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the present resolution is reported to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session within the context of the relevant section of the report of the Economic and Social Council on its substantive session of 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/265

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/534, para. 14)[206]

57/265. Establishment of the World Solidarity Fund

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/210 of 20 December 2000 and 56/207 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government,[207]

Stressing the objectives of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development,[208] the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[209] the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,[210] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[211]

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[212] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[213] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[214]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication,[215]

1. *Endorses* the decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to establish the World Solidarity Fund to eradicate poverty and to promote social and human development in the developing countries, while stressing the voluntary nature of the contributions and the need to avoid duplication of existing United Nations funds, and encouraging the role of the private sector and individual citizens relative to Governments in funding the endeavours, as set out in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[214]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to mandate the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to take the necessary measures for the immediate operationalization of the World Solidarity Fund as a trust fund of the Programme, subject to the financial rules and regulations as adopted by the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund, on the basis of the present resolution and, as appropriate, the recommendations contained in his report on the mechanisms, modalities, terms of reference, mandates and governance of the Fund;[215]

3. *Decides* that the World Solidarity Fund will support requests received from Governments of developing countries for financing poverty alleviation projects, including initiatives

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[206] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[207] See resolution 55/2.

[208] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[209] Ibid., annex II.

[210] Resolution S-24/2, annex, sect. I.

[211] A/CONF.191/11.

[212] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[213] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[214] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[215] A/57/137.

from community-based organizations and small private sector entities;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to request the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2003 a progress report on the measures taken for the operationalization of the Fund;

5. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, the private sector, relevant institutions, foundations and individuals to contribute to the Fund;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the present resolution is reported on, to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

RESOLUTION 57/266

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/534, para. 14)[216]

57/266. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it established the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, and its resolution 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty,

Recalling also its resolution 50/107 of 20 December 1995 on the observance of the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty and the proclamation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), as well as the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the International Conference on Financing for Development,[217] the five-year review of the World Food Summit[218] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development[219] as well as the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,[220]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit,[221] and their commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling its resolution 56/207 of 21 December 2001, entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication",

Bearing in mind the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development[222] and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,[223]

Underlining the priority and urgency given by the heads of State and Government to the eradication of poverty, as expressed in the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[217] and in the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Expressing its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continues to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in the least developed countries and in sub-Saharan Africa,

Recognizing that, while the rate of poverty in some countries has been reduced, some developing countries and disadvantaged groups are being marginalized and others are at risk of being marginalized and effectively excluded from the benefits of globalization, resulting in increased income disparity among and within countries, thereby constraining efforts to eradicate poverty,

Recognizing also that, for the poverty eradication strategy to be effective, it is imperative that developing countries be integrated into the world economy and share equitably in the benefits of globalization,

Reaffirming that, within the context of overall action for the eradication of poverty, special attention should be given to the multidimensional nature of poverty and the national and international conditions and policies that are conducive to its eradication, fostering, inter alia, the social and economic integration of people living in poverty and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, including the right to development,

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[216] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee

[217] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[218] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[219] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[220] A/C.2/56/7, annex.

[221] See resolution 55/2.

[222] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[223] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[224]

1. *Stresses* that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, in particular for developing countries, and that, although each country has the primary responsibility for its own sustainable development and poverty eradication and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, concerted and concrete measures are required at all levels to enable developing countries to achieve their sustainable development goals as related to the internationally agreed poverty-related targets and goals;

2. *Also stresses* that the deep fault line that divides human society between the rich and the poor and the ever-increasing gap between the developed and developing worlds pose a major threat to global prosperity, security and stability;

3. *Reaffirms* that good governance at the international level is fundamental for achieving poverty eradication and sustainable development; that, in order to ensure a dynamic and enabling international economic environment, it is important to promote global economic governance through addressing the international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have an impact on the development prospects of developing countries; that, to that end, the international community should take all necessary and appropriate measures, including ensuring support to structural and macroeconomic reform, a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem and increasing market access for developing countries; that efforts to reform the international financial architecture need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries in decision-making processes; and that a universal, rule-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system, as well as meaningful trade liberalization, can substantially stimulate development worldwide, benefiting countries at all stages of development;

4. *Also reaffirms* that good governance at the national level is essential for poverty eradication and sustainable development; that sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation; and that freedom, peace and security, domestic stability, respect for human rights, including the right to development, and the rule of law, gender equality, market-oriented policies and an overall commitment to just and democratic societies are also essential and mutually reinforcing;

5. *Stresses* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) should contribute to achieving the targets of halving, by 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, through decisive national action and strengthened international cooperation as part of an integrated approach to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;[221]

6. *Reaffirms* that the eradication of poverty should be addressed in an integrated way, as set out in the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[225] taking into account the importance of the need for the empowerment of women and sectoral strategies in such areas as education, development of human resources, health, human settlements, rural, local and community development, productive employment, population, environment, water and sanitation, food security, energy and migration, and the specific needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, in such a way as to increase opportunities and choices for people living in poverty and to enable them to build and to strengthen their assets so as to achieve development, security and stability, and in that regard encourages countries to develop their national poverty reduction policies in accordance with their national priorities, including, where appropriate, through poverty reduction strategy papers;

7. *Stresses* the importance of increasing access to and control over resources, including land, skills, knowledge, capital, and social connections, for the poor, in particular women, and of improving access for all to basic social services;

8. *Recognizes* the major role that trade can play as an engine of growth and development and in eradicating poverty, and in that context stresses the need for expeditious and complete integration of developing countries and countries with economies in transition into the international trading system, in full cognizance of the opportunities and challenges of globalization and liberalization and taking into account the circumstances of individual countries, in particular the trade interests and development needs of developing countries;

9. *Welcomes* the decision contained in the Ministerial Declaration, adopted at the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization,[220] to place the needs and interests of

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[224] A/57/211.

[225] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

developing countries at the heart of the work programme adopted at the Conference, including through enhanced market access for products of interest to developing countries;

10. *Recognizes* that a substantial increase in official development assistance and other resources will be required if developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, are to achieve the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and that, to build support for official development assistance, cooperation is necessary to further improve policies and development strategies to enhance aid effectiveness, both nationally and internationally, and in that regard requests those countries that made announcements of increased official development assistance at the International Conference on Financing for Development to make those resources available as soon as possible;

11. *Urges* developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts to reach the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, as reconfirmed at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held at Brussels from 14 to 20 May 2001,[226] encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets, acknowledges the efforts of all donors, commends those donors whose official development assistance contributions exceed, reach or are increasing towards the targets, and underlines the importance of undertaking to examine the means and time frames for achieving the targets and goals;

12. *Recognizes* that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector, and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance, and that efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community;

13. *Notes with great concern* the continuing debt and debt-servicing problems of the heavily indebted poor developing countries as constituting an element that adversely affects their sustainable development efforts, noting in that regard that the total debt stock of the developing countries rose from $1,458 billion in 1990 to $2,442 billion in 2001, recognizes that creditors and debtors must share the responsibility for preventing and resolving unsustainable debt situations and that debt relief can play a key role in liberating resources that should be directed towards activities consistent with attaining sustainable growth and development, including poverty reduction and the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration, and in that regard urges countries to direct those resources freed through debt relief, in particular through debt cancellation and reduction, towards those objectives;

14. *Calls* for the full, speedy and effective implementation of the enhanced Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which should be fully financed through additional resources, encourages the participation in the Initiative of all creditors that have not yet participated, and stresses in that regard the need for the donor community to provide the additional resources necessary to fulfil the future financial requirements of the Initiative, welcomes, therefore, the agreement that financing for heavily indebted poor countries should be reviewed analytically and separately from International Development Association replenishment requirements, but back-to-back with meetings for the fourteenth replenishment of the Association, and calls upon all donors to participate fully in that process;

15. *Calls upon* the developed countries, by means of intensified and effective cooperation with developing countries, to promote capacity-building and facilitate access to and transfer of technologies and corresponding knowledge, in particular to developing countries, on favourable terms, including concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed, taking into account the need to protect intellectual property rights, as well as the special needs of developing countries, by identifying and implementing practical steps to ensure the achievement of progress in that regard and to assist developing countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in an era influenced in large measure by technology;

16. *Recognizes* the responsibility of all Governments to adopt policies aimed at preventing and combating corrupt practices at the national and international levels;

17. *Also recognizes* the importance of disseminating best practices for the reduction of poverty in its various dimensions, taking into account the need to adapt those best practices to suit the social, economic, cultural and historical conditions of each country;

18. *Expresses its concern* that, despite a decrease in the number of undernourished people in some developing countries during the 1990s, nearly two thirds of those countries recorded either no change or an increase in the number of undernourished people, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, and that, at current rates of progress, the target to halve the proportion of people who suffer from hunger by 2015 is likely to be achieved in some regions but not in others, including sub-Saharan Africa, unless substantially strengthened efforts are made at all levels in order to achieve food security;

19. *Emphasizes* the link between poverty eradication and improving access to safe drinking water, and stresses in that regard the objective to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people

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[226] See A/CONF.191/11.

who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, as reaffirmed in the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation;[225]

20. *Recognizes* that the lack of adequate housing remains a pressing challenge in the fight to eradicate extreme poverty, particularly in the urban areas in developing countries, expresses its concern at the rapid growth in the number of slum dwellers in the urban areas of developing countries, particularly in Africa, stresses that unless urgent and effective measures and actions are taken at the national and international levels, the number of slum dwellers, who constitute one third of the world's urban population, will continue to increase, and emphasizes the need for increased efforts, with a view to significantly improving the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers by 2020;

21. *Welcomes* the efforts made to implement the 20/20 initiative, which emphasizes that promoting access for all to basic social services is essential for sustainable and equitable development and is an integral part of the strategy for the eradication of poverty;

22. *Emphasizes* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education, in particular basic education and training, especially for girls, in the empowerment of those living in poverty, reaffirms in that context the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[227] and recognizes the importance of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization strategy for poverty eradication, especially extreme poverty, in supporting the Education For All programmes as a tool to achieve, inter alia, universal primary education by 2015;

23. *Recognizes* the devastating effect of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) epidemic on human development, economic growth and poverty reduction efforts in many countries, in particular sub-Saharan African countries, and urges Governments and the international community to give urgent priority to the HIV/AIDS crisis by addressing, in particular, the special needs of developing countries through strengthened cooperation and assistance as well as through the implementation of commitments undertaken, as agreed in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session, in June 2001;[228]

24. *Emphasizes* the role of microcredit as an important anti-poverty tool that promotes production and self-employment and empowers people living in poverty, especially women, and therefore encourages Governments to adopt policies that support microcredit schemes and the development of microfinance institutions and their capacities;

25. *Reaffirms* that all Governments and the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes aimed at the eradication of poverty, at both the national and international levels, and encourages the use of gender analysis as a tool for the integration of a gender dimension into planning the implementation of policies, strategies and programmes for the eradication of poverty;

26. *Stresses*, as recognized in the Millennium Declaration, the importance of meeting the special needs of Africa, where poverty remains a major challenge and where most countries have not benefited fully from the opportunities of globalization, which has further exacerbated the continent's marginalization;

27. *Welcomes* the New Partnership for Africa's Development[229] as a programme of the African Union, the primary objective of which is to eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development on the basis of African ownership and leadership and enhanced partnership with the international community, and urges the developed countries and the United Nations system to support the Partnership and complement the efforts undertaken by Africa to overcome the challenges it faces;

28. *Stresses* that the goal of halving the proportion of people living on less than one dollar a day by 2015 will not be achieved without serious efforts to address the development needs of the least developed countries and to support their efforts to improve the lives of their people, and in that regard calls upon the national Governments of the least developed countries and their development partners to implement fully the commitments contained in the Brussels Declaration[230] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[226] adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

29. *Reaffirms* the role of United Nations funds and programmes, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, in assisting the national efforts of developing countries, inter alia, in the eradication of poverty, and the need for their funding in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

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[227] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000*, Paris, 2000.

[228] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[229] A/57/304, annex.

[230] A/CONF.191/12.

31. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006)".

RESOLUTION 57/267

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/535, para. 15)[231]

57/267. United Nations University

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the United Nations University, including resolution 55/206 of 20 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Council of the United Nations University[232] and the report of the Secretary-General,[233]

Bearing in mind the importance of the intellectual contributions made by the University for the United Nations system, which tackles various global issues,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the voluntary contributions made by Governments and other public and private entities in support of the University,

1. *Notes with satisfaction* the implementation of the "Strategic Plan, 2000: Advancing Knowledge for Human Security and Development", which lays out broad programmatic orientations with special focus on the priority concerns of the United Nations and the need to bring together theory and practice in a global perspective, and requests the United Nations University to continue to attach importance to the priority agendas of the United Nations system;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the steps taken by the Council and the Rector of the University to promote the work and visibility of the University and to enhance and diversify its interaction with and contributions to the work of the United Nations, and encourages them to continue such efforts;

3. *Compliments* the University on its success to date towards creating a critical mass of viable research and training centres and programmes around the world, focused in particular on meeting the urgent needs and concerns of developing countries;

4. *Welcomes* the increasing importance being attached by the University to capacity development, particularly in developing countries;

5. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the broadening participation in the joint initiative by the University and the United Nations Office at Geneva to convene a yearly research and policy dialogue that is thematically focused and involves the United Nations system and other entities engaged in policy research and analysis;

6. *Welcomes* the increasing number of offers for new collaborative arrangements with the University, which contributes to broadening and enhancing academic networking, as a sign of its success and enhanced profile;

7. *Encourages* the University to implement the Secretary-General's suggestion on innovative measures to improve interaction and communication between the University and other United Nations entities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage other bodies of the United Nations system to utilize more fully the capacity of the University for mobilizing a worldwide network of applied policy researchers to assist the Organization, through research and capacity development, in resolving the pressing global problems of the day;

9. *Emphasizes* the continuing need to ensure efficiency and cost-effectiveness in conducting the activities of the University;

10. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the University, including its research and training centres and programmes, in particular to its Endowment Fund, as a means of consolidating the distinctive identity of the University in the United Nations system and the international scientific community;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session an item entitled "United Nations University".

RESOLUTION 57/268

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/535, para. 15)[234]

57/268. United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/121 of 20 December 1995, 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997,

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[231] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Denmark, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Mongolia, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[232] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 31* (A/57/31).

[233] A/57/589.

[234] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000 and 56/208 of 21 December 2001,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[235] and the report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[236]

Expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting with concern that contributions to the General Fund have not increased, while the participation of the developed countries in training programmes in New York and Geneva is increasing,

Noting that the Institute receives no subsidy from the United Nations regular budget and that it provides training programmes to all Member States free of charge,

Reiterating the need to accord training activities a more visible and larger role in support of the management of international affairs and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Reaffirms* the relevance of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in view of the growing importance of training within the United Nations and the training requirements of States and the relevance of the training-related research activities undertaken by the Institute within its mandate;

2. *Stresses* the need for the Institute to further strengthen its cooperation with other United Nations institutes and relevant national, regional and international institutes;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made in building partnerships between the Institute and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system with respect to their training programmes, and in this context underlines the need to develop further and to expand the scope of those partnerships, in particular at the country level;

4. *Renews its appeal* to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in view of the successful restructuring and revitalization of the Institute;

5. *Stresses* the need to ensure the long-term financial viability of the Institute as it relates to its debt and rent and maintenance costs;

6. *Regrets* the simultaneous submission of the report of the Secretary-General to the Second and Fifth Committees at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

7. *Emphasizes* that, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, the Fifth Committee is the appropriate committee within which to consider the issue of reclassification of rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the Institute, and recognizes that the Fifth Committee will deliberate on the debt and on reclassifying the rental rates and maintenance costs charged to the Institute, taking into consideration its financial situation as well as privileges offered to other, comparable organizations;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/269

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/536, para. 10),[237] by a recorded vote of 155 to 4, with 4 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Madagascar, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Tuvalu

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[235] A/57/479.

[236] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 14* (A/57/14).

[237] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Brunei Darussalam, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Palestine.

57/269. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/204 of 21 December 2001, and taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/31 of 25 July 2002,

Reaffirming the principle of the permanent sovereignty of peoples under foreign occupation over their natural resources,

Guided by the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, affirming the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force, and recalling relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967, 465 (1980) of 1 March 1980 and 497 (1981) of 17 December 1981,

Reaffirming the applicability of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[238] to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Expressing its concern at the exploitation by Israel, the occupying Power, of the natural resources of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and other Arab territories occupied by Israel since 1967,

Also expressing its concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory during the recent period,

Aware of the additional detrimental economic and social impact of the Israeli settlements on Palestinian and other Arab natural resources, especially the confiscation of land and the forced diversion of water resources,

Reaffirming the need for the immediate resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973 and 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978 and the principle of land for peace, and for the achievement of a final settlement on all tracks,

Taking note of the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan,[239]

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people and the population of the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources, including land and water;

2. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, cause loss or depletion of or endanger the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan;

3. *Recognizes* the right of the Palestinian people to claim restitution as a result of any exploitation, loss or depletion of, or danger to, their natural resources, and expresses the hope that this issue will be dealt with in the framework of the final status negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli sides;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources".

RESOLUTION 57/270

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/537, para. 14)[240]

57/270. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, particularly its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 56/211 of 21 December 2001, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001 and its agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, 2000/2 of 27 July 2000 and 2002/1 of 26 July 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcome of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit,[241]

Reaffirming that the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[242] and the outcomes of the major

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[238] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[239] A/57/63-E/2002/21.

[240] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[241] A/57/75-E/2002/57.

[242] See resolution 55/2.

United Nations conferences and summits, provide a comprehensive basis for action at the national, regional and international levels with the key objectives of poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, sustainable development and improvement of the living conditions of people everywhere,

Reaffirming also that, while each United Nations conference has its thematic unity, major United Nations conferences and summits should be viewed as interlinked and contributing to an integrated framework for the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and to a global partnership for development,

Recognizing the need to continue efforts to use the existing structure, namely, the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary machinery, for coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of the commitments agreed upon at the Millennium Summit and other major United Nations conferences and summits, so as to enhance coordination as well as effectiveness and efficiency of actions at all levels,

Reiterating the need to strengthen the role of the General Assembly as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to coordinated and integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming that the Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination and thus to promote coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Emphasizing that the relevant functional commissions and, as appropriate, other relevant intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system, within their mandates, must fulfil their responsibilities as specified in the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, should further enhance their role as the main forums for expert follow-up and review of major United Nations conferences and summits and, in this regard, must strengthen their efforts to enhance inter-agency collaboration and coordination to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing that the process of integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits should not include renegotiation of any outcomes of those conferences, including their specific institutional arrangements for follow-up,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended ad hoc working group of the General Assembly under the chairmanship of the President of the Assembly, with two vice-chairmen to be elected by the working group;

2. *Also decides* that the work of the working group should be consistent with the provisions of resolution 50/227 and the follow-up mechanisms decided upon by the respective United Nations conferences and summits and should respect the interlinked nature of their outcomes as well as the thematic unity of each conference, and emphasizes that cross-sectoral thematic issues for further consideration throughout the existing structure should be decided upon at the intergovernmental level and should focus on implementation, bearing in mind that the process of integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields should be fair and balanced and should respect the principle of multilateralism and the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Further decides* that the working group will produce concrete recommendations to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields and will thus contribute to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[242] bearing in mind the continuing reform process of the United Nations and resolution 50/227, as well as the views expressed by the Member States on this question;

4. *Decides* that the working group will also consider the work of the General Assembly and its Second and Third Committees relevant to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields as well as the modalities of the reports presented to the General Assembly, bearing in mind the respective roles of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and subsidiary organs;

5. *Also decides* that the working group will submit proposals on how best to address the review of the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including its format and periodicity, bearing in mind the need to recognize the active role of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Further decides* that future decisions on follow-up to conferences whose ten-year anniversaries are imminent shall be kept pending subject to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly on the report of the working group;

7. *Decides* that the working group will consider how to ensure that the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits are integrated into the programmes of work of the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and are taken fully into account, as relevant, in the operational work and country frameworks of the organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with

national development objectives and priorities, and requests the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group to contribute to the reflection on integrated conference follow-up;

8. *Also decides* that the working group will commence its substantive work during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, no later than January 2003, and will submit its report before 27 June 2003, for consideration by the General Assembly and action before the close of the fifty-seventh session in 2003;

9. *Further decides* that at its first meeting the working group will consider its work programme, including the issue of the periodicity and duration of its meetings within the time boundaries established in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields" and to consider it directly in plenary meeting.

RESOLUTION 57/271

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/537, para. 14)[243]

57/271. World Food Summit: five years later

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 51/171 of 16 December 1996, in which it welcomed the outcome of the World Food Summit, held in Rome from 13 to 17 November 1996,[244]

Recalling also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Millennium Declaration,

Recalling further its resolutions 55/162 of 14 December 2000 and 56/95 of 14 December 2001 on the follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit,

1. *Welcomes* the holding of the World Food Summit: five years later, which was organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 10 to 13 June 2002;

2. *Urges* Member States to implement in a coordinated manner and in close cooperation with relevant bodies of the United Nations system, as well as international and regional financial institutions, the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later – International Alliance against Hunger;[245]

3. *Requests* all relevant organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Food Programme and the International Fund For Agricultural Development, as well as the international and regional financial institutions, to pursue, at the global, regional and country levels, the implementation of the outcome of the World Food Summit: five years later in the context of the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in particular the goals of halving the levels of hunger and absolute poverty by 2015, and in the context of relevant follow-up to the Fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, the International Conference on Financing for Development and the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

RESOLUTION 57/272

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/538, para. 16)[246]

57/272. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development, which was adopted on 22 March 2002,[247]

Welcoming the initiatives and efforts, on the part of relevant actors in the financing for development process from the public and private sectors and from civil society, to stay fully engaged, nationally, regionally and internationally, so as to ensure proper follow-up to the implementation of agreements and commitments reached at the Conference, and to continue to build bridges between development, finance and trade organizations and initiatives, within the framework of the holistic agenda of the Conference,

Recognizing the link between financing for development and attaining internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including those contained in the United Nations

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[243] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[244] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996*, (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

[245] Ibid., *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[246] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[247] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Millennium Declaration,[248] in measuring development progress and helping to guide development priorities, as well as achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development,

Emphasizing that the international financial system should support sustainable development, sustained economic growth and poverty eradication and should allow for the mobilization, in a coherent manner, of all sources of financing for development, including the mobilization of domestic resources, international flows, trade, official development assistance and external debt relief,

Taking note of the communiqués of the joint International Monetary Fund/World Bank Development Committee of 21 April and 28 September 2002 and the communiqué of the International Monetary and Financial Committee of the International Monetary Fund of 28 September 2002,

1. *Underscores its firm commitment* to the full and effective implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[247] and, in that regard, to promoting a holistic approach to the interconnected national, international and systemic challenges of financing for development, in active partnership with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and other relevant institutional stakeholders, civil society and the private sector, including through collective and coherent action in every area of the Consensus;

2. *Reiterates* that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country and at the international level. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential;

3. *Expresses its concern* about the difficulties of the present world economic situation, stresses the importance of confronting it through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions, and underlines the importance of continued efforts to improve global economic governance and strengthen the United Nations leadership role in promoting development;

4. *Calls* for the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and development issues, and, to that end, re-emphasizes the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and broad sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

5. *Recognizes* that an enabling domestic environment is vital for mobilizing domestic resources, increasing productivity, reducing capital flight, encouraging the private sector, and attracting and making effective use of international investment and assistance. Efforts to create such an environment should be supported by the international community;

6. *Encourages* all Governments to combat corruption, bribery, money-laundering and the transfer of illicitly acquired funds and assets and to work for the return of such funds and assets to the countries of origin, and welcomes actions taken in that regard at the national and international levels;

7. *Stresses* the need for structural reforms to strengthen corporate governance, accounting and auditing, in particular when inadequate policies can have systemic consequences;

8. *Stresses also* the importance of strong domestic institutions that promote business activities and financial stability for the achievement of growth and development, inter alia, through sound macroeconomic policies and policies aimed at strengthening the regulatory systems of the corporate, financial and banking sectors;

9. *Considers* that, in the context of the current world economic situation, the multilateral trading system should be reinforced by achieving a balanced outcome of the Doha negotiations which responds to the interests of all the members of the World Trade Organization, in particular the developing countries, by giving concrete shape to the development-related provisions of the work programme of the World Trade Organization and by working to ensure that the concerns of developing countries, in particular in terms of implementation issues and special and differential treatment, are properly and effectively addressed in accordance with the Ministerial Declaration adopted at Doha,[249] as amended by the action of the General Council of the World Trade Organization;

10. *Recognizes* that trade rules and issues in the post-Doha framework should have a clear development content;

11. *Expresses its concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions that are not consistent with World Trade Organization rules, that harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and that have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

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[248] See resolution 55/2.

[249] See A/C.2/56/7, annex.

12. *Welcomes* the commitments announced at the International Conference on Financing for Development to increase the levels and effectiveness of official development assistance, looks forward to the early availability of the resources committed in keeping with the announced time frames, urges developed countries that have not done so to make concrete efforts to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product as official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 per cent to 0.20 per cent of gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help achieve development goals and targets;

13. *Reaffirms* the determination, as expressed in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[248] to deal comprehensively and effectively with the debt problems of low- and middle-income developing countries, through various national and international measures designed to make their debt sustainable in the long term;

14. *Reaffirms also* that reviews of debt sustainability should also bear in mind the impact of debt relief on progress made towards the achievement of the development goals contained in the Millennium Declaration and that debt sustainability analysis at the completion point needs to take into account any worsening global growth prospects and declining terms of trade; in addition, efforts to strengthen the transparency and integrity of debt sustainability analysis should continue;

15. *Stresses*, in the consideration of any new debt resolution mechanism, the importance of a broad discussion in the appropriate forums, with the participation of all interested actors, welcomes the steps taken by the international financial institutions to take into account social aspects and the borrowing costs for developing countries, encourages them to continue their efforts in that regard, and reiterates that the adoption of such a mechanism should not preclude emergency financing in times of crisis;

16. *Stresses also* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and in this context invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account whether their effects in terms of the external economic environment would be favourable to growth and development;

17. *Notes* the impact of financial crisis or risk of contagion in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, regardless of their size, and in this regard underlines the need to ensure that the international financial institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, have a suitable array of financial facilities and resources to respond in a timely and appropriate way, in accordance with their policies;

18. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the Development Committee of 28 September 2002, in particular paragraph 10, on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways to further enhance the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encourages all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures towards this end;

19. *Invites* the International Monetary Fund to continue its work on quotas, and welcomes the continuing consideration by the Fund of its quota review and the reiteration by the International Monetary and Financial Committee that the Fund should have adequate resources to fulfil its financial responsibilities and that quotas should reflect developments in the international economy;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariats of relevant institutional stakeholders, fully utilizing the mechanisms of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, with the effective support of the United Nations Secretariat and building on the successful experience in the preparations for the International Conference on Financing for Development, to prepare a comprehensive report on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the Conference, focusing on progress achieved in all areas covered by the Monterrey Consensus;

21. *Decides* that the preparatory work and reports of the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as well as the preparatory process of the General Assembly high-level dialogue, should serve as inputs in the preparation of the comprehensive report, which would be submitted on an annual basis to the General Assembly, under the agenda item on follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development, as well as to the biennial high-level dialogue of the General Assembly;

22. *Stresses* the importance of making progress on all fronts and enhancing the coherence and synergies of all development efforts, and, in the spirit of the strategic partnership launched at Monterrey, requests the President of the General Assembly to bring the present resolution to the attention of the Board of Executive Directors of the World Bank and the Executive Board of the International Monetary Fund before the 2003 spring meetings of the International Monetary and Financial Committee and the Development Committee, as well as to the attention of the General Council of the World Trade Organization, as an input to the special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization to be held in April 2003 and the subsequent high-level dialogue of the General Assembly on financing for development to be held in the second half of 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/273

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/538, para. 16)[250]

57/273. Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, by which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development[251] and requested the Secretary-General to include in his report on the outcome of the Conference, to be submitted to it at its fifty-seventh session, measures taken as well as his proposals for ensuring effective secretariat support to the follow-up efforts to the Conference,

Stressing the importance of providing sustained follow-up within the United Nations system to the agreements and commitments reached at the Conference and ensuring effective secretariat support, with collaboration from the secretariats of the major stakeholders concerned, fully utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination mechanism, pursuant to paragraph 72 of the Monterrey Consensus, and building on the innovative and participatory modalities and related coordination arrangements utilized in the preparations for the Conference,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, in which the Council, inter alia, decided to promote a coherent and integrated response within the United Nations on the part of the different departments, units, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, each in its specific area of competence,

Recalling the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-second session, in which the Committee recommended that, following the endorsement of the Monterrey Consensus by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General should prepare a proposal for a new subprogramme on financing for development under programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,[252]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development[253] and on follow-up efforts to the Conference;[254]

2. *Reaffirms* that the Conference constituted a new approach by the international community and that its implementation and follow-up should be given a very high priority in the economic and social work of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, as soon as possible, from within the existing resources of the United Nations Secretariat, appropriate secretariat support arrangements along the lines envisioned in paragraph 48 of the report of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the Conference,[253] with collaboration from other agencies and institutional stakeholders and with a distinctive function to provide effective substantive secretariat support for sustained follow-up within the United Nations to the agreements and commitments reached at the Conference;

4. *Decides* that the functions of the new secretariat support structure should be of an integrating, cross-cutting and holistic nature and that it should, inter alia, serve as a focal point in the United Nations Secretariat for overall follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Conference, provide secretariat support to the intergovernmental process entrusted with the follow-up to the Conference, support and facilitate the participation of all stakeholders, follow closely the issues and policies related to international economic, financial and development cooperation, and keep under review actions taken at all levels in the follow-up to the Conference, as well as within the framework of international economic, financial and development cooperation, in general;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord priority to the following main tasks related to follow-up activities: (*a*) promoting coherence and an integrated approach within the United Nations to issues related to financing for development, fully utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination mechanism; (*b*) intensifying interactions with the secretariats of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, as well as other institutional stakeholders; (*c*) continuing the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the private sector; and (*d*) preparing inputs for consideration by the intergovernmental bodies concerned;

6. *Invites* Member States and all institutional and non-institutional stakeholders in the financing for development process to extend their full support to and cooperate fully with the new secretariat support structure in fulfilling its tasks;

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[250] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[251] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[252] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), para. 107.

[253] A/57/344.

[254] A/57/319-E/2002/85.

7. *Decides* that the provisions of the present resolution should be implemented, utilizing existing resources, starting at the beginning of 2003;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek voluntary contributions to support the follow-up to the Conference;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as a part of his consolidated report on financing for development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/274

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/539, para. 11)[255]

57/274. Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 53/169 of 15 December 1998, 54/231 of 22 December 1999, 55/212 of 20 December 2000 and 56/209 of 21 December 2001 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[256]

Recalling also its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, in which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[257] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[258] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[259] as well as the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Expressing its concern about the marginalization of a large number of developing countries from the benefits of globalization, the additional vulnerability of those developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the general accentuation of the income and technological gap between developed and developing countries, as well as within countries,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence are opening new opportunities through trade, investment and capital flows and advances in technology, including information technology, for the growth of the world economy, development and the improvement of living standards around the world, and recognizing also that some countries have made progress in successfully adapting to the changes and have benefited from globalization,

Recognizing also the importance of appropriate policy responses at the national level by all countries to the challenges of globalization, in particular by pursuing sound macroeconomic and social policies, noting the need for support from the international community for the efforts of the least developed countries, in particular, to improve their institutional and management capacities, and recognizing that all countries should pursue policies conducive to economic growth and to promoting a favourable global economic environment,

Stressing that such national macroeconomic and social policies can yield better results with international support and with an enabling international economic environment,

Emphasizing the need to address those imbalances and asymmetries in international finance, trade, technology and investment patterns that have a negative impact on development prospects for developing countries, with a view to minimizing such impacts,

Noting with serious concern that a large number of developing countries have not yet been able to reap the full benefits of the existing multilateral trading system, and underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy so as to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

Stressing that the process of reform for a strengthened and stable international financial architecture should be based on broad participation in a genuine multilateral approach, involving all members of the international community, to ensure that the diverse needs and interests of all countries are adequately represented,

Underlining the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence for all developing countries, including landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and, in particular, African countries and the least developed countries,

Reiterating that the United Nations, as a universal forum, is in a unique position to achieve international cooperation by addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence, in particular by promoting a more equitable sharing of the benefits of globalization,

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[255] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[256] See resolution 55/2.

[257] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[258] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[259] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[260]

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in promoting policy coherence on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

3. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts at all levels, including policies and measures at the national and global levels to create a shared future based upon a common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and thus have a positive impact on development;

4. *Reaffirms* the need to improve mutual supportiveness by fulfilling the commitments made, as agreed, at all United Nations conferences and summits, including those of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[256] in order to promote sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the context of globalization and interdependence;

5. *Underlines* that in order to make globalization work for all, it is essential to invest in basic economic and social infrastructure, social services and social protection, including education, health, nutrition, shelter and social security programmes, which take special care of children and older persons and are gender-sensitive and fully inclusive of the rural sector and all disadvantaged communities and are vital for enabling people, especially people living in poverty, to better adapt to and benefit from changing economic conditions and opportunities;

6. *Also underlines* the critical need to reinforce national efforts in capacity-building in developing countries and countries with economies in transition in such areas as institutional infrastructure, human resource development, public finance, mortgage finance, financial regulation and supervision, basic education, public administration, social and gender budget policies, early warning and crisis prevention, and debt management;

7. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations system to continue to address the social dimension of globalization, and in that regard encourages the International Labour Organization's work on the social dimension of globalization;

8. *Recognizes* the right of countries to choose independently their own paths to development and national poverty reduction strategies;

9. *Reiterates* that success in meeting the objectives of development and poverty eradication depends, inter alia, on good governance within each country and at the international level. Sound economic policies, solid democratic institutions responsive to the needs of the people and improved infrastructure are the basis for sustained economic growth, poverty eradication and employment creation. Transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and the commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system are equally essential;

10. *Notes* that important international efforts are under way to reform the international financial architecture, emphasizes that those efforts need to be sustained with greater transparency and the effective participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and that one major objective of the reform is to enhance financing for development and poverty eradication, and underscores the commitment, set forth in paragraph 53 of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[257] to sound domestic financial sectors, which make a vital contribution to national development efforts, as an important component of an international financial architecture that is supportive of development;

11. *Takes note* of the communiqué of the joint International Monetary Fund/World Bank Development Committee of 28 September 2002, in particular paragraph 10, on the need to identify pragmatic and innovative ways to further enhance participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international decision-making and norm-setting, and encourages all relevant international financial institutions to take concrete measures to that end;

12. *Welcomes* the commitment by all countries to promote national and global economic systems based on the principles of justice, equity, democracy, participation, transparency, accountability and inclusion, as contained in the Monterrey Consensus;

13. *Calls* for the integrated consideration of trade, finance, investment, technology transfer and developmental issues, and to that end re-emphasizes the urgency of coherent action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, as appropriate, along with the action of Governments, to promote equitable and broad sharing in the benefits of globalization, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

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[260] A/57/287.

14. *Expresses its concern* about the adoption of a number of unilateral actions that are not consistent with World Trade Organization rules, harm the exports of all countries, in particular those of developing countries, and have a considerable bearing on the ongoing World Trade Organization negotiations and on the achievement and further enhancement of the development dimension of the trade negotiations;

15. *Stresses* the special importance of creating an enabling international economic environment through strong cooperative efforts by all countries and institutions to promote equitable economic development in a world economy that benefits all people, and in that context invites developed countries, in particular major industrialized countries, which have significant weight in influencing world economic growth, when formulating their macroeconomic policies, to take into account whether their effects in terms of the external economic environment would be favourable to growth and development;

16. *Also stresses* the need to promote corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the full development and effective implementation of intergovernmental agreements and measures, international initiatives and public-private partnerships, and appropriate national regulations, and to support continuous improvement in corporate practices in all countries;

17. *Further stresses* the role of the United Nations in addressing the digital divide in the context of globalization and the development process of developing countries and in promoting coherence and synergies between various regional and international initiatives, including the Information and Communication Technologies Task Force and the Digital Opportunities Task Force;

18. *Urges* developed countries to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in narrowing the digital divide, creating digital opportunities and harnessing the potential of information and communication technologies for development, through technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and the provision of financial and technical support, and in that context to support the World Summit on the Information Society;

19. *Encourages* developing countries to continue to pursue appropriate development policies to promote economic development and poverty eradication, and in that regard invites the international community to pursue strategies that support those policies through continued efforts to address the problems of market access, persistent external debt, transfer of resources, financial vulnerability and declining terms of trade;

20. *Strongly urges* the international community to take all necessary and appropriate measures, including support for structural and macroeconomic reform, foreign direct investment, enhanced official development assistance, the search for a durable solution to the external debt problem, market access, capacity-building and the dissemination of knowledge and technology, in order to achieve sustainable development and promote the participation in the global economy of all African countries, as well as the least developed countries, the landlocked developing countries and small island developing States;

21. *Emphasizes* the importance of recognizing and addressing the specific concerns of countries with economies in transition so as to help them to benefit from globalization, with a view to their full integration into the world economy;

22. *Reaffirms its resolve* to give greater opportunities to the private sector, non-governmental organizations and civil society in general to contribute to the realization of the goals and programmes of the United Nations and thereby to maximize opportunities and mitigate the negative economic and social consequences of globalization;

23. *Emphasizes* the importance of understanding the regional dimension in efforts to enhance global economic governance, inter alia, by fully utilizing the potential of regional commissions to facilitate the sharing of experiences and best practices, within their respective mandates;

24. *Invites* the international community to provide increased technical assistance and financial resources to developing countries in support of their efforts to build institutional capacities;

25. *Calls upon* the United Nations system to enhance its support at the country level for capacity-building activities in developing countries and [illegible] strengthen coordination of its efforts in that regard;

26. *Invites* all countries, as well as the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization, within their respective mandates, to continue to strengthen interactions with civil society, including the private sector and non-governmental organizations, as important partners in development;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the effect of the increasing linkages and interdependence among trade, finance, knowledge, technology and investment on poverty eradication and sustainable development in the context of globalization, and to make action-oriented recommendations;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".

RESOLUTION 57/275

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/540 and Corr.1, para. 9)[261]

57/275. Special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 56/205 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/38 of 26 July 2002,

Recalling the Habitat Agenda[262] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[263]

Emphasizing the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[264] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[265] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development ("Johannesburg Plan of Implementation"),[266] as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,[267]

Acknowledging the holding of the first session of the World Urban Forum, a non-legislative technical forum in which experts are able to exchange views in years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) does not meet, and the fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, an advisory body to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat,

Welcoming the efforts made by UN-Habitat to forge partnerships with other United Nations funds and programmes and with international financial institutions, such as the World Bank,

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of UN-Habitat and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely, effective and concrete results in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation, particularly in developing countries,

Reiterating the call to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to increase her efforts to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure-development programmes and housing-finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[268] on the strengthening of UN-Habitat,[269] and on coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[270]

1. *Underlines* the commitments made by Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda[262] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[263] and to the goal of achieving a significant improvement in the

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[261] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[262] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[263] Resolution S-25/2, annex.

[264] See resolution 55/2.

[265] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[266] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[267] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[268] A/57/271.

[269] A/57/272.

[270] E/2002/48.

lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[264]

2. *Underlines also* the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the commitment to halve, by 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, and requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) to support developing countries in implementing the targets in order to increase access to clean water, sanitation and adequate shelter;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen and institutionalize national Habitat committees and other mechanisms, as appropriate, as broad-based platforms for the preparation and implementation of their plans of action based on the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium and the relevant international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

4. *Urges* all countries to strengthen and mainstream shelter and human settlements development activities in their development planning frameworks;

5. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support the Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of requisite resources, capacity-building, transfer of technology and the creation of an international enabling environment;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to further strengthen her efforts to make the Cities Alliance initiative an effective means for the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

8. *Encourages* UN-Habitat to continue to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, including through promoting partnerships with local authorities, non-governmental organizations, private sector and other Habitat Agenda partners so as to empower them, within the legal framework and according to the conditions of each country, to play a more effective role in shelter provision and in sustainable human settlements development;

9. *Reiterates* the invitation to Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

10. *Also reiterates* the agreement by Governments to intensify dialogue where possible, inter alia, through the Governing Council of UN-Habitat, on all issues related to effective decentralization and strengthening of local authorities, in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in conformity with the legal framework and policies of each country;

11. *Encourages* Governments and their Habitat Agenda partners to evaluate and report to UN-Habitat on their implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium;

12. *Welcomes* increased cooperation between UN-Habitat and the United Nations Development Programme, and notes with interest the envisaged placement of locally recruited UN-Habitat programme managers in selected United Nations Development Programme offices in recipient countries, in consultation with the relevant Governments;

13. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system to increase cooperation in and strengthen coordination of their activities, within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic and organizational identities, in order to promote the implementation of the relevant provisions of Agenda 21[271] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[266] with a view to supporting sustainable development;

14. *Reiterates* the invitation to the Executive Director of UN-Habitat to implement, in accordance with paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium, the establishment of the Habitat Agenda Task Manager System to allow better monitoring and mutual reinforcement of actions taken by international agencies in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

15. *Calls upon* UN-Habitat to further support the implementation of the Water for African Cities programme, as requested by the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[272]

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[271] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[272] A/57/304, annex.

16. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director to strengthen UN-Habitat, and encourages her to continue such efforts;

17. *Invites* Governments and relevant international institutions and agencies to increase their support to UN-Habitat in order to enhance its capacity to function as a fully fledged United Nations programme;

18. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director to strengthen the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and invites Governments that are in a position to do so, and their Habitat Agenda partners, to increase their financial contributions to the Foundation in a predictable manner;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of UN-Habitat and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery of necessary services to UN-Habitat and other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi in an effective manner;

20. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a consolidated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly".

RESOLUTION 57/276

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/541, para. 9)[273]

57/276. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2001, as well as its resolutions 53/182 of 15 December 1998, 54/235 of 23 December 1999 and 55/214 of 20 December 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, in which it endorsed the Brussels Declaration[274] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010,[275]

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, pursuant to its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001,

Taking note of the outcome of the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries, held at Cotonou from 5 to 7 August 2002,[276]

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/227 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[277]

1. *Reaffirms* that global-level follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010[275] should be primarily concerned with assessing the economic and social performance of the least developed countries, monitoring the implementation of commitments by the least developed countries and their development partners, reviewing the functioning of implementation and follow-up mechanisms at the country, subregional, regional and sectoral levels and policy developments at the global level that have implications for the least developed countries;

2. *Invites* each least developed country, with the support of its development partners, to promote the implementation of the actions contained in the Programme of Action by translating them into specific measures within its national development framework and poverty eradication strategy, in particular poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist, and with the involvement of civil society, including the private sector, on the basis of a broad-based inclusive dialogue;

3. *Stresses* the need for efficient and strengthened coordination and monitoring of and follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and in this regard calls for an adequate allocation of resources for the functioning of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to enable it to carry out successfully its mandate as set out in resolution 56/227;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund to support the activities of the Office of the High Representative, pursuant to its call in resolution 56/227 for voluntary contributions;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund, in particular for the

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[273] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[274] A/CONF.191/12.

[275] A/CONF.191/11.

[276] A/57/436, annex.

[277] A/57/496.

implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and international levels;

6. *Reiterates its call* to the governing bodies of the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other multilateral organizations to mainstream the implementation of the Programme of Action within their programmes of work and intergovernmental processes;

7. *Emphasizes* that the organizations of the United Nations system have a special role to play in the implementation of the Programme of Action and that the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate the coordinated and coherent implementation and monitoring of the Programme of Action is crucial, and in this regard welcomes with appreciation the decisions taken by several governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system to mainstream the Programme of Action;

8. *Urges* all Member States and the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and other multilateral organizations, to extend to the Office of the High Representative their full support for the fulfilment of its mandate;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive annual progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001–2010.

RESOLUTION 57/277

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/543, para. 12)[278]

57/277. Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 53/201 of 15 December 1998 and 56/213 of 21 December 2001 on public administration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/45 of 20 December 2001,

Stressing the need for capacity-building initiatives aimed at institution-building, human resources development, strengthening financial management and harnessing the power of information and technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[279]

2. *Reiterates* that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a key role to play in the implementation of internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[280] and in that context stresses the need to strengthen national public sector administrative and managerial capacity-building, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Decides* that 23 June will be designated United Nations Public Service Day, and encourages Member States to organize special events on that day to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process;

4. *Expresses its deep appreciation* for the generous offer of the Kingdom of Morocco to host the fourth Global Forum, at Marrakesh, in December 2002;

5. *Welcomes* the substantive support that the Secretariat has provided to the Global Forum, and invites it to extend such support to any future forums of a similar kind that may take place;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the role that the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance performs in promoting information sharing and exchange of experience and in building the capacities of developing countries to utilize information communication technologies for this purpose, and reiterates that particular emphasis should be given to the exchange of experience related to the role of public administration in the implementation of internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in the manner he deems appropriate, on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[278] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

[279] A/57/262-E/2002/82.

[280] See resolution 55/2.

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RESOLUTION 57/163

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/544, para. 10)[1]

57/163. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action[2] and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session[3] constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Also recalling and reaffirming the commitments made at major United Nations conferences, special sessions, summit conferences and their follow-up processes, including, in this context, the recognition of the contributions of the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences and summits, such as the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the special session of the General Assembly on children, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002, and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, and the principles expressed in relevant United Nations declarations,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[4] and the development goals contained therein,

Welcoming the outcome of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, and stressing the importance of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[5] which focuses on three priority directions: older persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age, and ensuring enabling and supportive environments,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[6]

2. *Reaffirms* the commitments made by heads of State and Government at the World Summit for Social Development, contained in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action,[2] which established a new consensus to place people at the centre of the concerns for sustainable development and pledged to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration so as to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

3. *Also reaffirms* the decisions on further action and initiatives to accelerate social development for all, adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session and contained in the further initiatives for social development;[3]

4. *Recognizes* that many of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly have been successfully incorporated in the outcomes of subsequent international conferences and summits, including those of the Millennium Assembly,[4] the International Conference on Financing for Development,[7] the Second World

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[2] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[3] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[4] See resolution 55/2.

[5] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[6] A/57/115.

[7] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

Assembly on Ageing[5] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[8] and that the integration of social development objectives in these many spheres demonstrates a continuing firm commitment to achieving the goals of the World Summit for Social Development;

5. *Calls* for the speedy implementation of the goals and commitments contained in the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

6. *Recognizes* that, while action taken to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits in the economic, social and related fields held during the past ten years will further promote social development, strengthened and effective international and regional cooperation and assistance for development and progress towards increased participation, greater social justice and improved equity in societies will also be required;

7. *Reaffirms* the need for effective partnership and cooperation between Governments and the relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, in the implementation of and follow-up to the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and the further initiatives for social development, and the need to ensure their involvement in the planning, elaboration, implementation and evaluation of social policies at the national level;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission for Social Development, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and the programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the commitments and undertakings contained in the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action and in the further initiatives for social development, to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

9. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and the review of the further implementation of the commitments made in Copenhagen and the further initiatives agreed upon in Geneva, reaffirms that the Commission will continue to have the primary responsibility in this regard, and encourages Governments, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to continue to support its work;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly", and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on this question to the General Assembly at that session, taking into account, among other things, the need for an integrated and coordinated follow-up to all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits.

RESOLUTION 57/164

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/545, para. 17)[9]

57/164. Preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 46/92 of 16 December 1991, 47/237 of 20 September 1993, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999 and 56/113 of 19 December 2001 concerning the proclamation, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth anniversary,

Recognizing that the follow-up to the International Year of the Family is an integral part of the agenda and of the multi-year programme of work of the Commission for Social Development until 2004,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the United Nations summits and conferences of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Recalling that relevant United Nations instruments on human rights as well as relevant global plans and programmes of action call for the widest possible protection and assistance to be accorded to the family, bearing in mind that, in different cultural, political and social systems, various forms of the family exist,

Emphasizing that equality between women and men and respect for the human rights of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, and noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life,

Aware that families are affected by social and economic changes manifested as observable worldwide trends and that the causes and consequences of those trends concerning families have to be identified and analysed,

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[8] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[9] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

Recognizing the important role of non-governmental organizations, at both the local and the national level, working in the interest of families,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004,[10]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[10] and the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Reaffirms its invitation* to all States to take prompt action to establish national mechanisms, as appropriate, to prepare for, observe and follow up the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in particular for the purpose of planning, stimulating and harmonizing the activities of the governmental and non-governmental agencies and organizations concerned with the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary, and to cooperate with the Secretary-General in achieving the objectives of the tenth anniversary;

3. *Calls upon* all United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the regional commissions and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in particular family-related organizations, to make every possible effort towards the implementation of the objectives of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family by integrating the family perspective into the planning and decision-making processes;

4. *Decides* that the major activities for the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family should be concentrated at the local, national and regional levels and that the United Nations system should assist Governments in these efforts;

5. *Takes note* of the major study on the most important trends affecting families, to be submitted to the General Assembly at the commencement of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in December 2003;

6. *Calls* for a concerted promotional, informational and media campaign on the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at the national, regional and international levels;

7. *Invites* the Secretary-General to launch the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family early in December 2003;

8. *Decides* to devote one plenary meeting at its fifty-ninth session, in 2004, to the observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, building upon the events to be held on 15 May 2004 on the occasion of the International Day of Families;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to play an active role in facilitating international cooperation within the framework of the follow-up to the International Year of the Family, to facilitate the exchange of experience and information among Governments on effective policies and strategies, to facilitate technical assistance, with a focus on the least developed and developing countries, and to encourage the organization of subregional and interregional meetings and relevant research;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council on the preparations for the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family at all levels.

RESOLUTION 57/165

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/545, para. 17)[11]

57/165. Promoting youth employment

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the resolve of heads of State and Government, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[12] to develop and implement strategies that give young people everywhere a real chance to find decent and productive work,

Recalling and reaffirming the commitments relating to youth employment made at the major United Nations conferences and summits since 1990 and their follow-up processes,

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[10] A/57/139 and Corr.1.

[11] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Zambia.

[12] See resolution 55/2.

Recalling its resolution 54/120 of 17 December 1999, in which it took note with appreciation of the Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes adopted at the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth in 1998,[13] which set forth important commitments regarding youth employment,

Recalling also its resolution 56/117 of 19 December 2001, in which, inter alia, it welcomed the Secretary-General's initiative to create a Youth Employment Network and invited him to continue with initiatives in that regard,

Recognizing that young people are an asset for sustainable economic growth and social development, and expressing deep concern about the magnitude of youth unemployment and underemployment throughout the world and its profound implications for the future of our societies,

Recognizing also that Governments have a primary responsibility to educate young people and to create an enabling environment that will promote youth employment,

1. *Takes note* of the work of the High-level Panel of the Secretary-General's Youth Employment Network and its policy recommendations;[14]

2. *Encourages* Member States to prepare national reviews and action plans on youth employment and to involve youth organizations and young people in this process, taking into account, inter alia, the commitments made by Member States in this regard, in particular those included in the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond;[15]

3. *Invites*, within the context of the Youth Employment Network, the International Labour Organization, in collaboration with the Secretariat and the World Bank and other relevant specialized agencies, to assist and support, upon request, the efforts of Governments in the elaboration of national reviews and action plans, and to undertake a global analysis and evaluation of progress made in this regard;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on the progress achieved by the Youth Employment Network.

RESOLUTION 57/166

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/545, para. 17)[16]

57/166. United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the ten-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[17] in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by the year 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Reaffirming that a basic education is crucial to nation-building, that literacy for all is at the heart of basic education for all and that creating literate environments and societies is essential for achieving the goals of eradicating poverty, reducing child mortality, curbing population growth, achieving gender equality and ensuring sustainable development, peace and democracy,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition, by every child, youth and adult, of the essential life skills that enable them to address the challenges they can face in life, and represents an essential step in basic education, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the eradication of poverty,

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[13] See WCMRY/1998/28, chap. I, resolution 1.

[14] See A/56/422.

[15] Resolution 50/81, annex.

[16] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[17] See resolution 55/2.

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that nearly two thirds of the world's adult illiterates are women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on an international plan of action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;[18]

2. *Welcomes* the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;

3. *Appeals* to all Governments to reinforce political will, mobilize adequate national resources, develop more inclusive policy-making environments and devise innovative strategies for reaching the poorest and most marginalized groups and for seeking alternative formal and non-formal approaches to learning with a view to achieving the goals of the Decade;

4. *Urges* all Governments to take the lead in coordinating the activities of the Decade at the national level, bringing all relevant national actors together in a sustained dialogue on policy formulation, implementation and evaluation of literacy efforts;

5. *Appeals* to all Governments and professional organizations to strengthen national and professional educational institutions in their countries with a view to expanding their capacity and promoting the quality of education;

6. *Appeals* to all Governments and to economic and financial organizations and institutions, both national and international, to lend greater financial and material support to the efforts to increase literacy and achieve the goals of education for all and those of the Decade, through, inter alia, the 20/20 initiative,[19] as appropriate;

7. *Invites* Member States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to intensify their efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action;

8. *Decides* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization should take a coordinating role in stimulating and catalysing the activities undertaken at the international level within the framework of the Decade in a manner that is complementary to and coordinated with the ongoing process of education for all;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to prepare a report on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for submission to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family", a sub-item entitled "United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all".

RESOLUTION 57/167

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/546, para. 8)[20]

57/167. Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 54/24 of 10 November 1999, 54/262 of 25 May 2000, 56/118 of 19 December 2001 and 56/228 of 24 December 2001,

Reaffirming the principles and recommendations of the International Plan of Action on Ageing,[21] which it endorsed in its resolution 37/51 of 3 December 1982, and the United Nations Principles for Older Persons, adopted by the General Assembly in 1991,[22] which provided guidance in areas of independence, participation, care, self-fulfilment and dignity,

Having considered the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,[23]

Expressing its profound gratitude to the Government and the people of Spain for hosting the World Assembly and for the hospitality extended to all participants,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing;[23]

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[18] See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

[19] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II, para. 88 (*c*).

[20] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and Venezuela (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

[21] See *Report of the World Assembly on Ageing, Vienna, 26 July–6 August 1982* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.82.I.16), chap. VI, sect. A.

[22] Resolution 46/91, annex.

[23] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4).

2. *Endorses* the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by consensus by the Second World Assembly on Ageing on 12 April 2002;[24]

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[25]

4. *Calls upon* Governments, the United Nations system and all other actors to take the necessary steps to implement the Madrid Plan of Action;

5. *Recognizes* that the evolving process of global ageing requires actions at all levels on the three priority directions in the Madrid Plan of Action, namely, older persons and development, advancing health and well-being into old age, and ensuring enabling and supportive environments;

6. *Affirms* the aim of the Madrid Plan of Action, which is to ensure that persons everywhere are able to age with security and dignity and to continue to participate in their societies as citizens with full rights;

7. *Recognizes* that progress made in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action should be contingent upon effective partnership among Governments, all parts of civil society and the private sector, as well as an enabling environment based, inter alia, on democracy, the rule of law, respect for all human rights, fundamental freedoms and good governance at all levels, including the national and international levels;

8. *Reaffirms* that enhanced international cooperation is an essential complement to national efforts to implement fully the Madrid Plan of Action, and therefore encourages the international community further to promote cooperation among all actors involved;

9. *Invites* international financial institutions and regional development banks to examine and adjust their lending and grants practices so as to ensure that older persons are recognized as a development resource and are taken into account in their policies and projects as part of efforts to assist developing countries and countries with economies in transition in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

10. *Welcomes* the active participation of civil society, the private sector and other relevant actors in the Second World Assembly on Ageing and their support for the implementation of the Political Declaration and the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the contributions made through parallel events organized by the Government of Spain, and urges relevant actors to continue research efforts in support of the Plan;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider the necessary measures to improve the institutional capacity of the United Nations system to fulfil its responsibilities for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including, inter alia, the maintenance and strengthening of focal points on ageing in the light of the range of tasks called for in the Plan;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the preparation of the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, to allocate sufficient human and financial resources to the Programme on Ageing of the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat so as to make it possible for the Programme efficiently and effectively to fulfil its task as the United Nations focal point on ageing and to facilitate and promote the Madrid Plan of Action by, inter alia, designing guidelines for policy development and implementation and advocating means to mainstream ageing issues into development agendas;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives of the regional commissions to review the objectives and recommendations of the Madrid Plan of Action, with a view of translating it into regional plans of action, and to assist national institutions, upon request, in implementing and monitoring their actions on ageing;

14. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development, as the entity responsible for the follow-up to and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, to consider integrating the different dimensions of population ageing as contained in the Plan in its work and to consider the modalities for reviews and appraisals at its forty-first session in 2003;

15. *Welcomes* the preparation of a road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by the Programme on Ageing, and invites all relevant actors to contribute to its preparation;

16. *Urges* all Member States and other actors to contribute generously to the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing and to support activities undertaken in follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, including technical cooperation to promote the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to disseminate the Political Declaration and the Madrid Plan of Action as widely as possible, including among all relevant organs of the United Nations system;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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[24] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[25] A/57/93.

RESOLUTION 57/168

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[26]

57/168. International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Recalling also its resolution 56/120 of 19 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[27] of the Secretariat with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and encouraged Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in accordance with article 30 of the Convention, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments,

Reaffirming its deep concern over the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[28]

2. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of States have already ratified the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and reiterates the importance of ensuring the speedy entry into force of those instruments in accordance with its resolutions 55/25 and 55/255;

3. *Commends* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

4. *Welcomes* the proposed action by the Centre, described in the report of the Secretary-General, to promote the early entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also welcomes* the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and further encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Centre with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the Centre to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/169

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[29]

57/169. High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000, in which it decided to establish an ad hoc committee for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption,

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[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[27] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[28] E/CN.15/2002/10.

[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

Recalling also its resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002 on the terms of reference for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption, in which it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, established pursuant to its resolution 55/61, should negotiate a broad and effective convention which, subject to the final determination of its title, should be referred to as the "United Nations Convention against Corruption", and requested the Ad Hoc Committee to complete its work by the end of 2003,

Recalling further its resolution 55/188 of 20 December 2000 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin, and its resolution 56/186 of 21 December 2001 on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

Commending the efforts of the United Nations to address concerns about corruption in a global forum and the efforts of Member States to implement the various instruments and standards relating to corruption, including the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions[30] and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[31]

Mindful of the fact that negotiations on the draft United Nations convention against corruption are continuing in Vienna in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 55/61 and 56/260,

1. *Notes* the progress made to date by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003;

2. *Accepts with appreciation* the offer made by the Government of Mexico to host a high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention;

3. *Decides* to convene the high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention in Mexico by the end of 2003;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to schedule the high-level political conference for a period of three days before the end of 2003 and to organize it in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243;

5. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[32] of the Secretariat to work with the Government of Mexico, in consultation with Member States, in formulating proposals for the organization of the high-level political conference so that it may provide opportunities for high-level delegates to consider issues connected with the convention, in particular follow-up activities for its effective implementation and for future work in the area of fighting corruption;

6. *Invites* all States to arrange to be represented at the high-level political conference by persons at the highest possible level of government;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention, which will act as the secretariat for the high-level political conference, with all the resources necessary for organizing the conference in an effective and appropriate manner.

RESOLUTION 57/170

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[33]

57/170. Follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, by which it endorsed the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the States Members of the United Nations and the other States participating in the high-level segment of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 55/60 of 4 December 2000, in which it urged Governments, in their efforts to prevent and combat crime, especially transnational crime, and to maintain well-functioning criminal justice systems, to be guided by the results of the Tenth Congress,[34]

Recalling further its resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002, in which it took note with appreciation of the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration, which are contained in the annex to that resolution, and invited the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to follow up the implementation of the plans of action and to make any recommendations as appropriate,

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[30] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[31] Resolution 51/59, annex.

[32] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[33] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[34] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

Underlining the significance of the plans of action in providing guidance for the implementation of and follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the Vienna Declaration,

Having taken note of the fact that the plans of action reflect a wide range of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recognizing that effective follow-up to the plans of action could promote the use and application of those standards and norms while facilitating an effective long-term response to the challenges of the twenty-first century in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Invites* Governments and relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to consider carefully and to use, as appropriate, the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which are contained in the annex to resolution 56/261, as guidance for the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session on the outcome of its discussion with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes regarding their possible contribution to the implementation of the plans of action, pursuant to resolution 56/261;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Office on Drugs and Crime[35] of the Secretariat to keep the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice informed of the progress made in the follow-up to the plans of action in his reports on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, while formulating recommendations regarding the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001, to take into account the progress made in the follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and the plans of action, as well as new developments that have taken place in the meantime in the areas covered by the Vienna Declaration.

RESOLUTION 57/171

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[36]

57/171. Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December 1950 and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is to be held in 2005,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for and the new format of the United Nations congresses, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of resolution 56/119, as well as paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, annexed to resolution 46/152,

Recalling that, in its resolution 56/119, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses, to formulate, at its eleventh session, recommendations regarding the Eleventh Congress, including recommendations on the main topic, the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts and the venue and duration of the Congress, and to submit those recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its eleventh session[37] and of its discussion on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[38]

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[35] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[37] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (E/2002/30 and Corr.1).

[38] Ibid., chap. VII.

2. *Decides* that the main theme of the Eleventh Congress shall be "Synergies and responses: strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal justice";

3. *Suggests* that the following topics be included for discussion during the plenary session of the Eleventh Congress, and notes that Member States may refine these topics and propose additional topics at future intersessional meetings of the Commission for finalization at its twelfth session:

(*a*) Effective measures to combat transnational organized crime;

(*b*) Corruption: threats and trends in the twenty-first century;

(*c*) Economic and financial crimes: challenges to sustainable development;

(*d*) Making standards work: fifty years of standard-setting in crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. *Also suggests* that the following issues be considered by workshops within the framework of the Eleventh Congress, and notes that Member States may refine these issues and propose additional workshop topics at future intersessional meetings of the Commission for finalization at its twelfth session:

(*a*) Measures to combat economic crime: the role of the private sector;

(*b*) Cross-border law enforcement cooperation;

(*c*) Human rights in criminal justice;

(*d*) Restorative justice: community involvement, diversion and other alternative measures;

(*e*) Links between transnational organized crime and terrorism;

(*f*) Measures to combat high-technology and computer-related crime;

(*g*) Measures to combat money-laundering;

(*h*) Combating corruption;

(*i*) Crime prevention strategies for youth at risk;

(*j*) Current practices in and ways of overcoming obstacles to extradition;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress for the consideration of the Commission, and invites Member States to be involved actively in that process;

7. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of Thailand to host the Eleventh Congress, and requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the Government of Thailand and to report to the Commission at its twelfth session;

8. *Decides* that the duration of the Eleventh Congress shall not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

9. *Invites* Member States to be represented at the Eleventh Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress and to participate in thematic interactive round tables;

10. *Encourages* the relevant specialized agencies, United Nations programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[39] of the Secretariat in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention with the necessary resources, within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003, for the preparations for the Eleventh Congress and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 to support the holding of the Congress;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress and at the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

13. *Requests* the Commission, at its twelfth session, to finalize the programme for the Eleventh Congress and to make its final recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session.

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[39] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

RESOLUTION 57/172

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[40]

57/172. United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/122 of 19 December 2001 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[41]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/173

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/547, para. 22)[42]

57/173. Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

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[40] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Egypt (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States) and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

[41] A/57/135.

[42] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Recalling also its resolution 56/123 of 19 December 2001 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including organized crime, corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes, money-laundering, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and the criminal misuse of information technologies, as well as criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and noting in this context the outcomes of the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 26 to 28 February 2002,[43] and the seventh Regional Conference on Migration, held at Antigua, Guatemala, from 28 to 31 May 2002, as part of the Puebla Process,

Recognizing also the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations conventions and other legal instruments and policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Emphasizing the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto as a milestone in the efforts to fight and prevent organized crime, one of the most serious contemporary threats to democracy and peace,

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[44] of the Secretariat between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to make proposals to strengthen the Terrorism Prevention Branch at the United Nations Office at Vienna and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century annexed to General Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002,

Recalling also its resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002, by which the General Assembly established the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/19 of 24 July 2002, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in preventing and combating terrorism",

Welcoming the progress made thus far by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the Centre by least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict,

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[43] See A/57/64.

[44] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

Appreciating the funding provided by certain Member States in 2001 and 2002 that has permitted the Centre to enhance its capacity to execute an increased number of projects,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/123;[45]

2. *Affirms* the importance of the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime of the Secretariat in the fulfilment of its mandate, including to prevent and combat terrorism, and in particular in strengthening international cooperation and providing technical assistance, upon request, which complements the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council, and in this context takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat[46] requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253;

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

4. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems;

5. *Welcomes* the programme of work of the Centre, including the three global programmes addressing trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and the review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the visibility of that programme of work and to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

6. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre to assist, in particular, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict;

7. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

8. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[47] including the measures outlined in the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century annexed to resolution 56/261;

9. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the Centre;

10. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

13. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Development

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[45] A/57/153.

[46] A/57/152 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2.

[47] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10–17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

Programme and the World Bank, and other international funding agencies, to increase their interaction with the Centre, in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort, and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption, are considered in their sustainable development agenda, and that the expertise of the Centre in activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption and the promotion of the rule of law, is fully utilized;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes and other relevant bodies;

15. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure their speedy entry into force;

16. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and to provide adequate support to the Centre so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including the organization of a treaty event, in cooperation with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, in 2003;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of the completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption in accordance with the terms of resolution 56/260, and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003;

19. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/174

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/548, para. 8)[48]

57/174. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/92 of 12 December 1997, 53/115 of 9 December 1998, 54/132 of 17 December 1999, 55/65 of 4 December 2000 and 56/124 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[49] in which the world leaders resolved to redouble efforts to counter the world drug problem,

Reaffirming its commitment to the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, devoted to countering the world drug problem together, held in New York from 8 to 10 June 1998, and welcoming the continuing determination of Governments to overcome the world drug problem by a full and balanced application of national, regional and international strategies to reduce the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs, as reflected in the Political Declaration,[50] the Action Plan[51] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[52] and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[53]

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[48] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[49] See resolution 55/2.

[50] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[51] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[52] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[53] Resolutions S-20/4 A–E.

Gravely concerned that the drug problem, despite increasing efforts by States, relevant international organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, is still a challenge of global dimensions which constitutes a serious threat to the health, safety and well-being of all humankind, in particular young people,

Gravely concerned also that the demand for, production of and trafficking in illicit drugs and psychotropic substances undermines development, including efforts to reduce poverty, entails an increasing economic cost for Governments and continues to threaten seriously socio-economic and political systems, democratic institutions and the stability, national security and sovereignty of States, especially those involved in conflicts and wars, and that trafficking in drugs makes conflict resolution more difficult,

Deeply alarmed by the violence and economic power of criminal organizations and terrorist groups engaged in drug trafficking and other criminal activities, such as money-laundering and illicit traffic in arms, precursors and essential chemicals, and by the increasing transnational links between them, and recognizing the urgent need for enhanced international cooperation and implementation of effective strategies on the basis of the outcome of the twentieth special session of the General Assembly, which are essential to achieving results against all forms of transnational criminal activities,

Noting with grave concern the rapid and widespread increase, and the involvement of minors, in the illicit production of, trafficking in and consumption of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including amphetamine-type stimulants and other sorts of synthetic drugs, as well as in the number of children and young people starting to use drugs at an earlier age and having access to substances not previously used,

Reaffirming the importance of the commitments of Member States in meeting the objectives targeted for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at the twentieth special session, and welcoming the guidelines and elements recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme for the preparation of subsequent reports on the follow-up to the twentieth special session,[54]

Welcoming the adoption on 15 March 2002 of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/7 on the preparations for the ministerial-level segment of its forty-sixth session,[55] with the main theme of the assessment of the progress achieved and the difficulties encountered in meeting the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,

Emphasizing the importance of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, which introduces a new global approach balanced between illicit supply and demand reduction, under the principle of shared responsibility, and of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[56] which recognizes the importance of supply reduction as an integral part of a balanced drug control strategy,

Recognizing the efforts of all countries, in particular those that produce narcotic drugs for scientific and medical purposes, and of the International Narcotics Control Board in preventing the diversion of such substances to illicit markets and in maintaining production at a level consistent with licit demand, in line with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961[57] and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[58]

Recognizing also that the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances is often related to the economic development level of countries and that appropriate measures are required, based on the principle of shared responsibility and strengthened international cooperation, in support of alternative and sustainable development activities in the affected areas of those countries, which have as their objectives the reduction and elimination of illicit drug production,

Expressing its concern that lenient policies towards the use of illicit drugs that are not in accordance with the international drug control treaties may hamper the efforts of the international community to address the world drug problem, and recalling in this context the importance of complying with relevant international obligations,[59]

Welcoming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, adopted on 27 June 2001 at the special session of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS,[60] including the acknowledgement of the link between drug-using behaviour and HIV infection, as well as Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/1 of 15 March 2002 on HIV/AIDS in the context of drug abuse,[55]

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[54] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 8* (E/1999/28/Rev.1), part two, chap. I, resolution 42/11, annex; and ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C, resolution 44/2.

[55] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 8* and corrigenda (E/2002/28 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. I, sect. C.

[56] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[57] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 520, No. 7515.

[58] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[59] The Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152), the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1019, No. 14956) and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (see *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5)).

Stressing that respect for all human rights is and must be an essential component of measures taken to address the drug problem,

Ensuring that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies directed against the world drug problem, through their involvement in all stages of programmes and policy-making,

Recognizing that the use of new technologies and electronic media, including the Internet, poses new opportunities for and challenges to international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking,

Convinced that civil society, including non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, plays an active role and makes an effective contribution to countering the world drug problem, and should be encouraged to continue to do so,

Acknowledging that international cooperation in countering drug abuse and illicit production and trafficking has shown that positive results can be achieved through sustained and collective efforts,

I

Respect for the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law in countering the world drug problem

1. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, requires an integrated and balanced approach, and must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and in particular with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take further action to promote effective cooperation at the international and regional levels in the efforts to counter the world drug problem, on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Urges* all States to ratify or accede to and implement all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[61] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[58] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988;[62]

II

International cooperation to counter the world drug problem

1. *Urges* competent authorities, at the international, regional and national levels, to implement the outcome of the twentieth special session, within the agreed time frames, in particular the high-priority practical measures at the international, regional or national level, as indicated in the Political Declaration and related documents;[63]

2. *Urges* all Member States to implement the Action Plan[51] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[52] and to strengthen their national efforts to counter the abuse of illicit drugs among their population, in particular among children and young people;

3. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in developing action-oriented strategies to assist Member States to implement the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration, and requests the Executive Director of the Programme to report to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-sixth session on the follow-up to the Action Plan;

4. *Reaffirms its resolve* to continue to strengthen the United Nations machinery for international drug control, in particular the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the United Nations International Drug Control Programme and the International Narcotics Control Board, in order to enable them to fulfil their mandates, bearing in mind the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/30 of 28 July 1999 and the measures taken and recommendations adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions aimed at the enhancement

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[60] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[61] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[62] See *Official Records of the United Nations Conference for the Adoption of a Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Vienna, 25 November–20 December 1988*, vol. I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XI.5).

[63] See resolution S-20/2, annex, as well as the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction (resolution 54/132, annex), the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem, namely, the Action Plan against Illicit Manufacture, Trafficking and Abuse of Amphetamine-type Stimulants and Their Precursors (resolution S-20/4 A), the measures to prevent the illicit manufacture, import, export, trafficking, distribution and diversion of precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances (see resolution S-20/4 B), the measures to promote judicial cooperation (resolution S-20/4 C), the measures to counter money-laundering (resolution S-20/4 D) and the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development (resolution S-20/4 E).

of its functioning, in particular in its resolutions 44/16 of 29 March 2001[64] and 45/17 of 15 March 2002;[55]

5. *Calls upon* all States to adopt effective measures, including national laws and regulations, within the agreed time frame, to strengthen national judicial systems and to carry out effective drug control activities in cooperation with other States and in accordance with United Nations drug control conventions;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, the international financial institutions and other concerned intergovernmental and international organizations, within their mandates, as well as all sectors of civil society, notably non-governmental organizations, community-based organizations, sports associations, the media and the private sector, to continue their close cooperation with Governments in promoting and implementing the outcome of the twentieth special session through public information campaigns, in particular with regard to efforts for drug demand reduction;

7. *Urges* Governments, the relevant United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and other international organizations to assist and support States, upon request, in particular developing countries, with the aim of enhancing their capacity to counter illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, taking into account national plans and initiatives;

8. *Calls upon* all States to adopt and implement measures to prevent the diversion of chemicals to illicit drug manufacture, in cooperation with competent international and regional bodies and, if necessary and to the extent possible, with the private sector in each State, in accordance with the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration[50] and the resolution on the control of precursors adopted at the special session;[65]

9. *Calls upon* States, the international community, international and regional organizations, international financial institutions and regional development banks to support the implementation of the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development[56] by States affected by illicit crop cultivation, and the implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/14 of 15 March 2002 on the role of alternative development in drug control and development cooperation;[55]

10. *Calls upon* States in which cultivation and production of illicit drug crops occur to establish or reinforce, where appropriate, national mechanisms to monitor and verify illicit crops;

11. *Recommends* that Member States, in particular donor States and States in which sustainable alternative development programmes are being implemented, respect the balance and ensure the effective coordination of law enforcement and interdiction measures, eradication efforts and alternative development to achieve the goal of eliminating or reducing significantly the illicit cultivation of drug crops;

12. *Urges* States to open their markets to products that are the object of alternative development programmes and that are necessary for the creation of employment and the eradication of poverty;

13. *Encourages* States to cooperate through bilateral, regional and multilateral means to prevent illicit crop cultivation from emerging in, or from being relocated to, other areas, regions or countries;

14. *Urges* all States, bearing in mind the forthcoming quinquennial evaluation of the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session in 2003, to submit their replies to the questionnaires of the biennial reports to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on their efforts to meet the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008, as set out in the Political Declaration adopted at the special session, in accordance with the terms established in the guidelines adopted by the Commission at its forty-second and forty-fourth sessions;

15. *Urges* Member States and Observers to ensure that they are represented at the appropriate level at the ministerial-level segment of the forty-sixth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and to participate actively in that segment;

16. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board to continue their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

17. *Calls upon* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective into all its policies, programmes and activities, and requests the Secretariat to continue integrating a gender perspective into all documentation prepared for the Commission;

18. *Urges* all States to assign priority to the development and implementation of policies and programmes to raise awareness among children and young people, through, inter alia, information and education programmes, of the risks deriving from the use of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including synthetic drugs, as well as from the use of tobacco and alcohol, with the aim of preventing their use and reducing the adverse consequences of their abuse;

19. *Also urges* all States to make appropriate treatment and rehabilitation accessible to children, including adolescents, dependent on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, inhalants and alcohol;

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[64] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 8* (E/2001/28/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. C.

[65] Resolution S-20/4 B.

20. *Further urges* all States to adopt measures, including, where appropriate, possible national legislative measures, to address the linkages between the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and the illicit trade in narcotic drugs, among other related crimes, through increased international cooperation and by ensuring full implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;[66]

21. *Welcomes* the adoption of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[67] and the three Protocols thereto, namely, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[68] the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air[69] and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,[70] and encourages universal signature and ratification of these legal instruments;

22. *Stresses* the need for coordinated action to reduce the demand for illicit drugs, in the context of a comprehensive, balanced and coordinated approach encompassing supply control and demand reduction, as set out in the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, noting, inter alia, the links among drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism;

23. *Recognizes* the need to provide support to the States that are most affected by the transit of drugs, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/21 of 24 July 2002, in which the Council requested the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to continue to provide technical assistance, from available voluntary contributions for that purpose, to those States identified by relevant international bodies as the most affected by the transit of drugs, in particular developing countries in need of such assistance and support;

III

Action by the United Nations system

1. *Emphasizes* the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs as the principal United Nations policy-making body on drug control issues and as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

2. *Welcomes* Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 45/17,[55] which provides for an intersessional meeting of the Commission, if and when services are available at no additional cost to the Organization, to examine issues arising from the governing role of the Commission in the budgetary process of the Programme;

3. *Reaffirms* the role of the Executive Director of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme in coordinating and providing effective leadership for all United Nations drug control activities so as to increase cost-effectiveness and ensure coherence of action, complementarity and non-duplication of such activities throughout the United Nations system, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

4. *Emphasizes* that the multidimensional nature of the world drug problem calls for the promotion of integration and coordination of drug control activities throughout the United Nations system, including in the follow-up to major United Nations conferences;

5. *Urges* the relevant specialized agencies, programmes and funds, including humanitarian organizations, and invites multilateral financial institutions, to include action against the world drug problem in their programming and planning processes in order to ensure that the integral and balanced strategy that emerged from the special session devoted to countering the world drug problem together is being addressed, taking into account the priorities of States;

IV

United Nations International Drug Control Programme

1. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to implement its mandate within the framework of the international drug control treaties, the Comprehensive Multidisciplinary Outline of Future Activities in Drug Abuse Control,[71] the Global Programme of Action,[72] the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly devoted to countering the world drug problem together and relevant consensus documents;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Programme for the support provided to different States in meeting the objectives of the Global Programme of Action and of the special session, especially in cases where significant and anticipated progress was achieved regarding the goals and targets for 2003 and 2008;

3. *Requests* the Programme to continue:

(*a*) To strengthen dialogue with Member States and also to ensure continued improvement in management, so as to contribute to enhanced and sustainable programme delivery and further encourage the Executive Director to maximize the effectiveness of the Programme, inter alia, through the full implementation of Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolutions 44/16[54] and 45/17,[55] in particular the recommendations contained therein;

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[66] See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001* (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

[67] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[68] Ibid., annex II.

[69] Ibid., annex III.

[70] Resolution 55/255, annex.

[71] See *Report of the International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, Vienna, 17–26 June 1987* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.87.I.18), chap. I, sect. A.

[72] See resolution S-17/2, annex.

(*b*) To strengthen cooperation with Member States and with United Nations programmes, funds and relevant agencies, as well as relevant regional organizations and agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to provide, on request, assistance in implementing the outcome of the special session;

(*c*) To increase its assistance, within the available voluntary resources, to countries that are deploying efforts to reduce illicit crop cultivation by, in particular, adopting alternative development programmes, and to explore new and innovative funding mechanisms;

(*d*) To allocate, while keeping the balance between supply and demand reduction programmes, adequate resources to allow it to fulfil its role in the implementation of the Action Plan[51] for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction;[52]

(*e*) To strengthen dialogue and cooperation with multilateral development banks and with international financial institutions so that they may undertake lending and programming activities related to drug control in interested and affected countries to implement the outcome of the special session, and to keep the Commission on Narcotic Drugs informed of further progress made in this area;

(*f*) To take into account the outcome of the special session, to include in its report on the illicit traffic in drugs an updated, objective and comprehensive assessment of worldwide trends in illicit traffic and transit in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including methods and routes used, and to recommend ways and means of improving the capacity of States along those routes to address all aspects of the drug problem;

(*g*) To publish the *World Drug Report*, with comprehensive and balanced information about the world drug problem, and to seek additional extrabudgetary resources for its publication in all the official languages;

4. *Urges* all Governments to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the Programme by widening its donor base and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general-purpose contributions, to enable it to continue, expand and strengthen its operational and technical cooperation activities;

5. *Calls upon* the International Narcotics Control Board to increase efforts to implement all its mandates under international drug control conventions and to continue to cooperate with Governments, inter alia, by offering advice to Member States that request it;

6. *Notes* that the Board needs sufficient resources to carry out all its mandates, and therefore urges Member States to commit themselves in a common effort to assigning adequate and sufficient budgetary resources to the Board, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/20 of 23 July 1996, and emphasizes the need to maintain its capacity, inter alia, through the provision of appropriate means by the Secretary-General and adequate technical support by the Programme;

7. *Stresses* the importance of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, in all regions of the world, and the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and encourages them to continue to contribute to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, taking into account the outcome of the special session;

8. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[73] and, taking into account the promotion of integrated reporting, requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the quinquennial evaluation of the implementation of the outcome of the twentieth special session, including on the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, based on the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its forty-sixth session and the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/175

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34),[74] by a recorded vote of 136 to 7, with 29 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab

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[73] A/57/127.

[74] *The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the* Committee by: Greece, Mexico, Spain, and Venezuela (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan

57/175. Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolutions 55/219 of 23 December 2000 and 56/125 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 56/125, it decided to establish a working group mandated to make recommendations to the General Assembly on the future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on the Future Operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,[75] in which, the Working Group, inter alia, reaffirmed the mandate of the Institute in the field of gender equality and the advancement of women and stressed the need for it to be reformed and revitalized;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations made by the Working Group on the future operation of the Institute, and requests the Secretary-General to implement the measures recommended by the Working Group in this regard;[76]

3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Working Group established by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/125 in order to follow up the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above, in close consultation with the Secretary-General;

4. *Acknowledges* that the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above should be taken as provided within the context of the Secretary-General's programme for reform, as outlined in his report dated 14 July 1997[77] and in accordance with the recommendations contained in section VI.D of the report;

5. *Urges* the Institute to intensify its fund-raising efforts and to diversify its funding sources to include private foundations and inter-agency and inter-institutional collaborations, among others;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate;

7. *Urges* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, particularly during the critical transitional period;

8. *Requests* the Working Group to submit a preliminary report on the follow-up to the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-seventh session, and to submit its final report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To appoint, without delay, and in consultation with the Working Group, a Director to be chosen from among candidates who demonstrate knowledge and expertise in, inter alia, gender issues and social research;

(*b*) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/176

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34)[78]

57/176. Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[79] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[80] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[81] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[82] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[83] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[84]

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[75] A/57/330 and Add.1.

[76] A/57/330, para. 57.

[77] A/51/950.

[78] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

[79] Resolution 217 A (III).

[80] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[81] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly of the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[85] in particular the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, which entered into force on 18 January 2002,

Welcoming also the adoption by the General Assembly of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[86] which entered into force on 22 December 2000,

Recalling all previous resolutions on the problem of trafficking in women and girls adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[87] the conclusions on violence against women adopted on 13 March 1998 by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session[88] and the recommendations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery[89] adopted on 21 August 1998 by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities[90] at its fiftieth session,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[91] in particular the resolve expressed by heads of State and Government to intensify efforts to fight transnational organized crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking in human beings,

Reaffirming the outcomes and commitments pertaining to trafficking in women and girls of recent United Nations conferences and summits, including the World Conference on Human Rights,[92] the International Conference on Population and Development,[93] the World Summit for Social Development,[94] the Fourth World Conference on Women[95] and the special session of the General Assembly on children[96] and their follow-up processes,

Acknowledging the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[97] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly in November 2000 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[98] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children[99] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[100]

Recognizing the need to address the impact of globalization on the problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls,

Reaffirming that sexual violence and trafficking in women and girls for purposes of economic exploitation, sexual exploitation through prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation and contemporary forms of slavery are serious violations of human rights,

Seriously concerned at the increasing number of women and children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being trafficked to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also includes the victimizing of boys,

Recognizing that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Acknowledging that women and children who are victims of trafficking are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information or awareness and recognition of their human rights and the fact that they are victims, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to information and recourse mechanisms in cases of violation of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

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[82] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[83] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[84] See resolution 48/104.

[85] See resolution 54/263.

[86] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[87] Resolution 317 (IV).

[88] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/1998/27 and Corr.1), chap. I.

[89] See E/CN.4/1999/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/45, chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1998/19, and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/14, sect. VI.B.

[90] Subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

[91] See resolution 55/2.

[92] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[93] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[94] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[95] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[96] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[97] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[98] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[99] Ibid., annex II.

[100] Ibid., annex III.

Recognizing the importance of bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in women and children within their region, in particular girls,

Welcoming the efforts of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in developing programmes to combat trafficking in human beings, in particular women and girls,

Acknowledging the work being done by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in compiling information on the scale and complexity of the problem of trafficking, in providing protection and assistance for trafficked women and children, and in effecting their voluntary return to their countries of origin,

Recognizing that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, demand the strong political commitment and the active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing also that a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to prevention, healing and reintegration is required and that all actors, including judicial and law enforcement personnel, migration authorities, victims of trafficking and their families, non-governmental organizations and civil society, should collaborate in the development of such an approach,

Deeply concerned about the unabated use of new information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of exploitation of the prostitution of others and for child pornography, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in women as brides and sex tourism,

Gravely concerned at the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in women and children without regard to dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of domestic laws and international standards,

Stressing once again the need for Governments to provide standard humanitarian treatment to trafficked persons consistent with human rights standards,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[101]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies, the special rapporteurs and subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, other United Nations bodies and international, intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their mandates, as well as non-governmental organizations, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

3. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Commission on the Status of Women to consider at its forty-seventh session the priority theme "Women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century' ",[102] which will include issues relating to trafficking in women and girls;

4. *Urges* Governments to take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour, in order to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

5. *Also urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls through a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy consisting of, inter alia, capacity-building, legislative measures, prevention campaigns, information exchange, assistance and protection for and reintegration of the victims and prosecution of all the offenders involved, including intermediaries, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans and programmes to improve the protection of trafficked women and girls;

6. *Further urges* Governments to consider signing and ratifying relevant United Nations legal instruments such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[98] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[99] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[80] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[83] the Optional Protocol

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[101] A/57/170.

[102] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 7* (E/2002/27), chap. I, sect. B, draft decision III.

to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[80] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[85] as well as the Convention concerning Discrimination in respect of Employment and Occupation, 1958 (Convention No. 111) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182), of the International Labour Organization;

7. *Encourages* Member States to conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements, as well as to undertake initiatives, including regional initiatives, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[103] the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on trafficking in human beings, as expressed in the conclusions of the European Council at its meeting held at Tampere, Finland, on 15 and 16 October 1999,[104] and the activities of the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the International Organization for Migration in this field;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether local or foreign, through the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized for being trafficked, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

9. *Invites* Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in violence against women, in particular trafficking;

10. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, within existing resources, to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking, particularly in women and girls, as well as the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue, and to emphasize that trafficking is a crime, in order to reduce the demand for trafficked women and children;

11. *Urges* concerned Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources for programmes to strengthen preventive action, in particular education and campaigns to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels;

12. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide comprehensive programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance and health care, and by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

13. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to undertake campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

14. *Also encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking, and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims;

15. *Calls upon* Governments to take steps to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking, especially women and girls, as well as all measures taken against trafficking in persons, in particular those that affect the victims of such trafficking, are applied with full respect for the human rights of those victims and are consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination, including the prohibition of racial discrimination and the availability of appropriate legal redress;

16. *Invites* Governments to take steps, including witness protection programmes, to enable women who are victims of trafficking to make complaints to the police or other authorities, as appropriate, and to be available when required by the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time women have access to protection and social, medical, financial and legal assistance, as appropriate;

17. *Also invites* Governments to consider preventing, within the legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking, in particular women and girls, from being prosecuted for their illegal entry or residence, bearing in mind that they are victims of exploitation;

18. *Further invites* Governments to encourage Internet service providers to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of the Internet with a view to eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls;

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[103] See A/C.3/55/3, annex.

[104] See Tampere European Council, Presidency Conclusions (SN 200/99). Available on the Internet at www.europa.eu.int.

19. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism and telecommunications industries, including mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls;

20. *Stresses* the need for a global approach to eradicate trafficking in women and children and the importance, in this regard, of systematic data collection and comprehensive studies using common methodology and internationally defined indicators, which need to be developed, to make it possible to gather relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to develop systematic data-collection methods using such common methodology and indicators and to update continuously information on trafficking in women and girls, including the analysis of the modus operandi of trafficking syndicates;

21. *Urges* Governments to strengthen national programmes to combat trafficking in women and girls through sustained bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices, and invites Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

22. *Invites* Governments, once again, with the support of the United Nations, and taking into account current research and materials on traumatic stress and gender-sensitive counselling techniques, to formulate training manuals for law enforcement and medical personnel and judicial officers who handle cases of trafficked women and girls, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of victims;

23. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for law enforcement, immigration and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons, which should focus on methods used in preventing such trafficking, prosecuting the traffickers and protecting the rights of victims, including protecting the victims from traffickers, to ensure that the training also takes into account the need to consider human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues, and to encourage cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society;

24. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the International Covenants on Human Rights[81] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees and to work towards developing a common methodology and statistics to obtain comparable data;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile, as reference and guidance, successful interventions and strategies in addressing the various dimensions of the problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, based on reports, research and other materials from within the United Nations, including the Office on Drugs and Crime[105] of the Secretariat, as well as from outside the United Nations, and to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session proposals for a future international/United Nations year against trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, with a view to protecting their dignity and human rights.

RESOLUTION 57/177

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34)[106]

57/177. Situation of older women in society

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and guided by the purposes and principles of human rights instruments,

Recalling its resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women and its resolution 56/126 of 19 December 2001 on the situation of older women in society, Economic and Social Council resolution 1982/23 of 4 May 1982 on elderly women and the World Assembly on Ageing and Council resolutions 1986/26 of 23 May 1986 and 1989/38 of 24 May 1989 on elderly women, and Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/4 of 20 March 1992 on the integration of elderly women into development,[107]

Recalling also the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[108] and the

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[105] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[106] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, China, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda and United Republic of Tanzania.

[107] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4* (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

[108] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[109] in particular their provisions regarding older women,

Reaffirming that the Political Declaration and Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[110] provide a broad spectrum of social, political and economic recommendations to improve the conditions of older women,

Recognizing that older women outnumber older men, increasingly so with increasing age, and that the situation of older women everywhere must be a priority for policy action,

Aware that in order to ensure full equality between women and men it is essential to recognize the differential impact of ageing on women and men and to integrate a gender perspective into all policies, programmes and legislation,

Aware also that women constitute the majority of older populations in all regions of the world and represent an important human resource whose contribution to society has not been fully recognized,

Recognizing the increasing role of older women in taking the responsibility of providing care and assistance to those infected and affected by the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in various regions of the world, particularly in developing countries,

Affirming the dual challenges of ageing and disability, and affirming also that older persons have specific health needs and that, owing to the increase in life expectancy and the growing number of older women, their health concerns require particular attention and further research,

Aware that few statistics are available on the situation of older women, and recognizing the importance of data, including data disaggregated by age and sex, as an essential element of planning and policy evaluations,

Recognizing that women of all ages, in particular older women, continue to suffer from discrimination and lack of opportunities, including educational opportunities,

Emphasizing that Governments bear the primary responsibility for creating an enabling environment for the economic and social development of their citizens, and noting with appreciation the valuable contributions of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in calling attention to the specific needs of older women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held at Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,[110] and the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing,[111] and calls for efforts to implement the global action plan aimed at meeting the challenges of the world's ageing population, in particular with regard to older women;

2. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective, while continuing to take into account the needs of older women, in policy and planning processes at all levels;

3. *Also stresses* the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of gender and age and ensure equal rights and their full enjoyment for women of all ages;

4. *Urges* Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to promote programmes for healthy active ageing that stress the independence, equality, participation and security of older women and to undertake gender-specific research and programmes to address their needs;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system and the international financial institutions, to develop and improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by age and sex;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption in April 2002 by the Valencia Forum of research and academic professionals of the Research Agenda on Ageing for the Twenty-First Century, to support the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;[110]

7. *Urges* Governments to take measures to enable all older women to be actively engaged in all aspects of life by assuming a variety of roles in communities, public life and decision-making, and to develop and implement policies and programmes in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to ensure that older women can achieve their full enjoyment of human rights and quality of life, with a view to contributing to the realization of a society for all ages;

8. *Calls upon* Governments and the United Nations system to ensure that the needs, perspectives and experiences of older women are reflected in all development policies and programmes;

9. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and international organizations to consider, in their development planning, the increasing responsibilities of older women in providing care and assistance for those affected by HIV/AIDS;

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[109] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[110] See *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4).

[111] A/57/93.

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/178

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34)[112]

57/178. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/229 of 24 December 2001 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[113] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the political declaration[114] and the outcome document[115] of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraphs 68 (*c*) and (*d*) concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[116] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[117]

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[118] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention,

Recognizing that the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights will promote the realization of the rights of the child, bearing in mind the special needs of girls, and acknowledging the mutual reinforcement of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[119] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[120]

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, but expressing concern about the remaining challenges,

Welcoming also the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and seventy,

Welcoming further the entry into force on 22 December 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[121] in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

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[112] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[113] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[114] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[115] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[116] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[117] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[118] See resolution 55/2.

[119] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[120] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[121] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Having considered the report of the Committee on its twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions,[122]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[123] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[116]

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;[117]

4. *Welcomes* the rapidly growing number of States parties to the Optional Protocol, which now stands at forty-nine, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

5. *Also welcomes* the holding and successful outcome of the first informal meeting of States parties, held in New York on 17 June 2002;

6. *Further welcomes* the fact that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has adopted the rules governing its work under the Optional Protocol as part of its revised rules of procedure;[124]

7. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee of revised reporting guidelines,[125] in particular on the length of reports of States parties and the streamlining of their structure and content;

9. *Recalls* the great number of overdue reports, in particular initial reports, and urges States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in a timely manner in accordance with article 18 thereof;

10. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

11. *Invites* States parties to make use of the technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports;

12. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the Committee has addressed successfully the large number of reports that awaited consideration by the Committee during the extraordinary session held from 5 to 23 August 2002;

13. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

14. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible so that the amendment may enter into force;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods and for the holding, in Lund, Sweden, from 22 to 24 April 2002, of the seminar on the working methods of the Committee, and encourages the Committee to continue its efforts in this regard;

16. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the participation of the Committee in the first inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies on methods of work relating to the State reporting process, held in Geneva from 26 to 28 June 2002;

17. *Encourages* the Committee, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to the efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, taking into account in particular the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

19. *Urges* Governments, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

20. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and, in particular, women's organizations, as appropriate, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the

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[122] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38).

[123] A/57/406 and Corr.1.

[124] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38), annex I.

[125] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38), annex.

Convention, and in this regard encourages States parties to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

21. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

22. *Welcomes* the submission by the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, of reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to submit reports;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/179

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34)[126]

57/179. Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[127] and reaffirming also the obligations of States parties under human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[128] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[128] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[129] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[130]

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[131] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[132] as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women,[133] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[134]

Bearing in mind that crimes against women committed in the name of honour are a human rights issue and that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of such crimes and to provide protection to the victims, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Stressing the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls, including crimes committed in the name of honour, as a criminal offence, punishable by law,

Aware that inadequate understanding of the root causes of all violence against women, including crimes committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, and inadequate data on such violence hinder informed policy analysis, at both the domestic and the international level, and efforts to eliminate such violence,

Deeply concerned that women and girls are victims of these crimes, as described in the relevant sections of the reports of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and notes in this regard the relevant parts of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[135]

Emphasizing that such crimes are incompatible with all religious and cultural values,

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[126] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe.

[127] Resolution 217 A (III).

[128] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[129] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[130] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[131] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[132] See resolution 48/104.

[133] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[134] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[135] E/CN.4/2002/83, paras. 21–37.

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/52 of 23 April 2002,[136]

Emphasizing that the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour requires greater efforts and commitment on the part of Governments and the international community, inter alia, through international cooperation efforts, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitude are required,

Underlining the importance of the empowerment of women and their effective participation in decision-making and policy-making processes as one of the critical tools to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the adoption of amendments to relevant national laws relating to such crimes, the effective implementation of such laws and educational, social and other measures, including national information and awareness-raising campaigns, as well as activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of all other forms of violence against women;

(*b*) The efforts, such as projects, undertaken by United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, and encourages them to coordinate their efforts;

(*c*) The work carried out by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, grass-roots movements and individuals, in raising awareness of such crimes and their harmful effects;

2. *Expresses its concern* that women continue to be victims of crimes committed in the name of honour, and at the continuing occurrence in all regions of the world of such violence, which takes many different forms, and at failures to prosecute and punish perpetrators;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(*a*) To fulfil their obligations under the relevant international human rights instruments and to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[133] and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly;[134]

(*b*) To continue to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, by using legislative, administrative and programmatic measures;

(*c*) To investigate promptly and thoroughly, prosecute effectively and document cases of crimes against women committed in the name of honour and punish the perpetrators;

(*d*) To take all necessary measures to ensure that such crimes are not tolerated;

(*e*) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to be committed by involving, inter alia, community leaders;

(*f*) To encourage the efforts of the media to engage in awareness-raising campaigns;

(*g*) To encourage, support and implement measures and programmes aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of the causes and consequences of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the provision of training for those responsible for enforcing the law, such as police personnel and judicial and legal personnel, and to strengthen their capacity to respond to complaints of such crimes in an impartial and effective manner and take necessary measures to ensure the protection of actual and potential victims;

(*h*) To continue to support the work of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing this issue and to strengthen cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(*i*) To establish, strengthen or facilitate, where possible, support services to respond to the needs of actual and potential victims by, inter alia, providing for them the appropriate protection, safe shelter, counselling, legal aid, health-care services, rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

(*j*) To address effectively complaints of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, inter alia, by creating, strengthening or facilitating institutional mechanisms so that victims and others can report such crimes in a safe and confidential environment;

(*k*) To gather and disseminate statistical information on the occurrence of such crimes, including information disaggregated by age;

(*l*) To include, if within their reporting obligations, information on legal and policy measures adopted and implemented in their efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, where appropriate, in their reports to the human rights treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

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[136] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

4. *Invites*:

(*a*) The international community, including relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, inter alia, through technical assistance and advisory services programmes, to support the efforts of all countries, at their request, aimed at strengthening institutional capacity for preventing crimes against women committed in the name of honour and at addressing the root causes of such crimes;

(*b*) The relevant human rights treaty bodies to continue to address this issue, where appropriate;

(*c*) The Commission on the Status of Women to address this subject at its forty-seventh session under the priority theme "Women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century' ";

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[137]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the issue of elimination of violence against women to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a substantive report on the subject of the present resolution, based on all available data, containing an analysis of the root causes of these crimes, supportive statistical data, where available, and information on initiatives taken by States.

RESOLUTION 57/180

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/549, para. 34)[138]

57/180. Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[139] of achieving overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by 2000 and the further actions and initiatives set out in the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[140]

Recalling further its resolution 56/127 of 19 December 2001,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/50 of 23 April 2002 on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system,[141] in particular paragraph 14, in which the Commission recognized that gender mainstreaming would strongly benefit from the enhanced and full participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making in the United Nations system,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security[142] and the open debate held in the Security Council on 25 July 2002 on women and peace and security,[143]

Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

Noting with appreciation those departments and offices that have achieved the goal of gender balance, as well as those departments that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,

Welcoming the 4 per cent increase in the number of women at the D-2 level, which brings the proportion of women at that level to 22.3 per cent, but expressing concern that at other senior levels of the Secretariat the proportion of women has decreased overall since 1998 to only 10.5 per cent of Under-Secretaries-General and 12.5 per cent of Assistant Secretaries-General,

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[137] A/57/169.

[138] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[139] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[140] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[141] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[142] S/2002/1154.

[143] See S/PV.4589 and Corr.1 and S/PV.4589 (Resumption 1).

Expressing concern that only one of the fifty-one special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General is a woman, and expressing regret that the number of women heading United Nations agencies has been halved, from six to three, and also that the percentage of women assigned to peace operations has decreased,

Taking note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat on possible discrimination due to nationality, race, sex, religion and language in recruitment, promotion and placement,[144]

Concerned at the finding of the Office of Internal Oversight Services that the proportion of women separating from the Organization increased from 42 per cent in 1998 to 48 per cent in 2001, that at most levels women are reappointed less frequently than men, and that at these rates the Organization is unlikely to meet its gender parity target without concerted efforts to recruit females and retain the female staff currently employed,

Noting that the statistics on the representation of women in some organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[145] and the actions described therein;

2. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution was not met by the end of 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

4. *Expresses concern* that in four departments and offices of the Secretariat women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

5. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization;

(*b*) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration[146] and Platform for Action;[139]

(*c*) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation, including the sharing of best-practice initiatives, between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of those plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments;

(*d*) The decision, within the context of the new staff selection system,[147] to hold heads of departments and offices accountable for meeting the gender targets in departmental human resource action plans through their performance compacts;

(*e*) The continuing designation of focal points for women in the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management, both at Headquarters and in the field;

(*f*) The continuing provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the biennium;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to achieve and maintain the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(*a*) To continue to develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly from and in developing countries and countries with economies in transition and other Member States that are unrepresented or underrepresented in the Secretariat, and in occupations in which women are underrepresented;

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[144] See A/56/956.

[145] A/57/447.

[146] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[147] See ST/AI/2002/4.

(*b*) To encourage the United Nations system and its agencies and departments to make more effective use of existing information technology resources and systems and other established methods to disseminate information about employment opportunities for women and to better coordinate rosters of potential women candidates;

(*c*) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will not be less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met;

(*d*) To strongly encourage heads of departments and offices to continue selecting female candidates when their qualifications are the same as, or better than, those of male candidates, and to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

(*e*) To encourage consultation by heads of departments and offices with departmental focal points on women during the selection process and to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full and effective access to senior management;

(*f*) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action, to effectively contribute to, monitor and facilitate the setting and implementation of gender targets in human resource action plans, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(*g*) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, by, inter alia, actively pursuing appropriate work/life policies, such as flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements, career development and childcare and elder-care needs, and by providing more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses, providing support for the activities of women's networks and organizations within the United Nations system and expanding gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations;

(*h*) To continue to work to further strengthen the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field, including in peacekeeping operations, and further requests the early issuance of the directive on sexual harassment prepared by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat for use in peacekeeping and other field missions, as well as user-friendly guidelines on sexual harassment to be prepared for the United Nations system by the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the inter-agency working group;

(*i*) To undertake further analysis of the probable causes of the slow advance in the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, as outlined in paragraph 56 of his report,[145] to institute remedial measures and to report on progress made in this context to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to renew his efforts to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, and to appoint more women as resident coordinators and to other high-level positions;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, promoting inter-agency mobility and improving career development opportunities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations and Member States to continue to implement the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" pertaining to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system;[140]

10. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(*a*) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policy-making levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are underrepresented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(*b*) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

(*c*) To identify and submit regularly more women candidates for appointment or election to intergovernmental, expert and treaty bodies;

(*d*) To identify and nominate more women candidates for appointment or election as judges or other senior officials in international courts and tribunals;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as gender-segregated attrition rates for all organizational units and at all levels, and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance.

RESOLUTION 57/181

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/550, para. 12)[148]

57/181. Elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, which, inter alia, calls for international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[149] the Declaration on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women,[150] the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[151] the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[152] the Beijing Declaration[153] and Platform for Action[154] adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted on 25 June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights[155] and the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[156]

Recalling further its resolution 55/68 of 4 December 2000,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, as enunciated in the Charter, and reaffirming also the obligations of States parties under international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[157] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[157] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[158] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[159] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[160] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[161] and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[162]

Reaffirming also the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[163]

Reaffirming further the call for the elimination of violence against women and girls, especially all forms of commercial sexual exploitation as well as economic exploitation, including trafficking in women and children, female infanticide, crimes committed in the name of honour, crimes committed in the name of passion, racially motivated crimes, the abduction and sale of children, dowry-related violence and deaths, acid attacks and harmful traditional or customary practices, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages,

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[148] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[149] Resolution 217 A (III).

[150] See resolution 2263 (XXII).

[151] See resolution 48/104.

[152] See resolution 1904 (XVIII).

[153] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[154] Ibid., annex II.

[155] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[156] See resolution 55/2.

[157] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[158] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[159] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[160] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[161] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[162] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[163] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

Stressing the importance of the empowerment of women as a tool to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[164]

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the persistence of various forms of violence and crimes against women in all parts of the world, especially all forms of commercial sexual exploitation as well as economic exploitation, including trafficking in women and children, female infanticide, crimes committed in the name of honour, crimes committed in the name of passion, racially motivated crimes, the abduction and sale of children, dowry-related violence and deaths, acid attacks and harmful traditional or customary practices, such as female genital mutilation and early and forced marriages;

3. *Stresses* that all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly,[163] are obstacles to the advancement and empowerment of women, and reaffirms that violence against women both violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment by women of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Also stresses* the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls of all ages as a criminal offence punishable by law, including violence based on all forms of discrimination;

5. *Welcomes* specific legal and comprehensive legislative measures being enacted or contemplated, in particular with regard to various forms of violence against women and girls;

6. *Also welcomes* in this regard the launching of various initiatives, strategies and action plans aimed at, among other things, eradication, prevention, promotion, information, legislation, protection and welfare, education and research, enhancement of the economic capacity of women and the monitoring of the various forms of violence against women;

7. *Reaffirms* that there is increased awareness of and commitment to preventing and combating violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, welcomes in this context various legal, administrative and other measures taken by Governments for their prevention and elimination, and calls for high priority to be attached to the further strengthening of such measures;

8. *Urges* Member States to strengthen awareness and preventive measures for the elimination of all forms of violence against women, whether occurring in public or private life, by encouraging and supporting public campaigns to enhance awareness about the unacceptability and the social costs of violence against women, inter alia, through educational and media campaigns in cooperation with educators, community leaders and the electronic and print media;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* of the work being done by non-governmental organizations, including women's organizations, community-based organizations and individuals, in raising awareness about the economic, social and psychological costs of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, and in this regard encourages Governments to continue their support for the work of the non-governmental organizations in addressing this issue;

10. *Calls upon* States to fulfil their obligations under the relevant human rights instruments and to implement the Beijing Platform for Action[154] as well as the outcome document of the twenty-third special session;

11. *Encourages* States parties to include in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and other relevant treaty bodies, wherever possible, sex-disaggregated data and information on measures taken or initiated to eliminate all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session;

12. *Urges* relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, to assist countries, upon their request, in their efforts to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, and in this regard expresses its appreciation of the work being done by the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women and other relevant funds and programmes aimed at preventing and eliminating violence against women and girls;

13. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences to further devote equal attention to all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session, in her work and her reports, within her mandate, to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

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[164] A/57/171.

RESOLUTION 57/182

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/550, para. 12)[165]

57/182. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/203 of 22 December 1995, 51/69 of 12 December 1996, 52/100 of 12 December 1997, 53/120 of 9 December 1998, 54/141 of 17 December 1999, 55/71 of 4 December 2000 and 56/132 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[166] and the proposed actions and initiatives to overcome obstacles and challenges thereto,

Deeply convinced that the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[167] and the outcome of the twenty-third special session are important contributions to the advancement of women worldwide in the achievement of gender equality and must be translated into effective action by all States, the United Nations system and other organizations concerned, as well as by non-governmental organizations,

Stressing the importance of strong, sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels for achieving full and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Recognizing that the responsibility for the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session rests primarily at the national level and that strengthened efforts are necessary in this respect, and reiterating that enhanced international cooperation is essential for the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session,

Welcoming the increased attention to the situation of women and girls and the integration of a gender perspective in the work of the United Nations, in particular in the outcomes of major conferences, special sessions and summit conferences and their follow-up processes, and reaffirming its commitment to building on progress achieved in this respect,

Welcoming also the attention given to the situation of women and girls and the integration of a gender perspective in the outcomes of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[168] the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,[169] the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly, held in New York from 8 to 10 May 2002,[170] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[171]

Emphasizing the importance of the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2001/41 of 26 July 2001, to devote the coordination segment of one of its substantive sessions, before 2005, to the review and appraisal of the system-wide implementation of agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997,[172]

Noting with concern that the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[173] have not yet entered into force,

Reaffirming the primary and essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in promoting the advancement of women and gender equality, while noting the open debate on peacekeeping and gender held in the Security Council on 25 July 2002,[174]

1. *Reaffirms* the goals, objectives and commitments contained in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action[167] and also in the political declaration and further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-third special session;[166]

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[165] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Chairman of the Committee.

[166] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[167] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[168] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[169] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[170] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[171] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[172] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/52/3/Rev.1), chap. IV, para. 4.

[173] Resolution 55/25, annexes I–III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[174] See S/PV.4589 and Corr.1 and S/PV.4589 (Resumption 1).

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and progress made in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[175]

3. *Calls upon* Governments, the relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and all relevant actors of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to continue to take effective action to achieve full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as elaborated in the above-mentioned documents;

4. *Strongly encourages* Governments to continue to support the role and contribution of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and women's organizations, in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

5. *Calls upon* Governments and all other relevant actors to continue to integrate a gender perspective in the implementation of and follow-up to recent United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions and in future reports on this subject;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his annual and quinquennial reports on the follow-up to the United Nations Millennium Declaration[176] an assessment of the progress made in promoting the goal of gender equality, in particular in relation to the development goals set forth in the Millennium Declaration, and recommendations to improve the measurement and coverage of indicators so that progress towards gender equality can be evaluated over time;

7. *Welcomes* the convening of the World Summit on the Information Society, to be held in Geneva in 2003 and in Tunis in 2005, and encourages Governments and all other stakeholders to integrate a gender perspective in the preparatory processes and outcome documents;

8. *Reaffirms* its decision that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that plays the primary role in overall policy-making and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

9. *Also reaffirms* that the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session will be undertaken within the framework of an integrated and coordinated follow-up to major international conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

10. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to continue its efforts to ensure that gender mainstreaming is an integral part of all activities in its work and that of its subsidiary bodies, building upon agreed conclusions 1997/2 adopted by the Council on 18 July 1997,[172] and in this regard welcomes the inclusion of the issue of gender mainstreaming in its agenda, the consideration of annual progress made in gender mainstreaming and the attention given to gender perspective in the outcomes of the 2002 substantive session of the Council;

11. *Encourages* the Council to request the regional commissions, within their respective mandates and resources, to intensify efforts to build up a database, to be updated regularly, in which all programmes and projects carried out in their respective regions by organizations or bodies of the United Nations system are listed, and to facilitate the dissemination of information on such programmes and projects, as well as the evaluation of their impact on the empowerment of women through the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

12. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Commission on the Status of Women in the follow-up and review of the future implementation of the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, reaffirms that the Commission will continue to play a central role in this regard, and encourages Governments, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to continue to support its work;

13. *Recognizes* the importance attached to the regional and subregional monitoring of the global and regional platforms for action and of the implementation of the outcome of the twenty-third special session by regional commissions and other regional or subregional structures, within their mandates, in consultation with Governments, and calls for the promotion of further cooperation in that respect among Governments and, where appropriate, national machineries of the same region;

14. *Also recognizes* that sustained political will and commitment at the national, regional and international levels are essential elements for the full and accelerated implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

15. *Further recognizes* that adequate mobilization of resources at the national and international levels, as well as new and additional resources for the developing countries, including the least developed countries and countries with economies in transition, from all available funding mechanisms, including multilateral, bilateral and private sources, will also be required;

16. *Acknowledges* that the creation of an enabling environment at the national and international levels, including through the full participation of women at all levels of

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[175] A/57/286.

[176] See resolution 55/2.

decision-making, is necessary to ensure the full participation of women in economic activities, and calls upon States to remove obstacles to the full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session;

17. *Reaffirms* that, in order to ensure the effective implementation of the strategic objectives of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, the United Nations system should promote an active and visible policy of mainstreaming a gender perspective, including through the work of the Division for the Advancement of Women and of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the maintenance of gender units and focal points;

18. *Also reaffirms* that United Nations bodies that focus on gender issues, such as the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and the United Nations Children's Fund, have a critical role to play in the implementation of the objectives of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session, and recognizes that gender specialists throughout the United Nations system also have an important role to play in this regard;

19. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by all relevant organizations of the United Nations system in promoting the role of women in conflict prevention and resolution;

20. *Recognizes* the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, and urges the United Nations system and Governments to make further efforts in this regard and to take steps to ensure and support the full participation of women at all levels of decision-making and implementation in development activities and peace processes, including conflict prevention and resolution, post-conflict reconstruction, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building, as well as through the integration of a gender perspective into those United Nations processes;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all United Nations personnel and officials at Headquarters and in the field, especially in field operations, receive training so that they mainstream a gender perspective in their work, including gender impact analysis, and to ensure appropriate follow-up to such training;

22. *Requests* all bodies that deal with programme and budgetary matters, including the Committee for Programme and Coordination, to ensure that all programmes, medium-term plans and programme budgets visibly mainstream a gender perspective;

23. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[177] to include information on measures taken to implement the outcome of the twenty-third special session, as well as the Beijing Platform for Action, in their reports to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women under article 18 of the Convention;

24. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[178] and urges States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

25. *Urges* Member States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[173] in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;

26. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to disseminate the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session as widely as possible in all the official languages of the United Nations;

27. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to integrate a gender perspective in his reporting to the General Assembly, in order to support gender-sensitive policy formulation;

28. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report annually to the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women on follow-up to and progress in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session with an assessment of progress made in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system, including by providing information on key achievements, lessons learned and best practices, and to recommend further measures and strategies for future action within the United Nations system;

29. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century' ".

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[177] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[178] Resolution 54/4, annex.

RESOLUTION 57/183

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/551, para. 20)[179]

57/183. Assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/135 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also the provisions of its resolution 2312 (XXII) of 14 December 1967, by which it adopted the Declaration on Territorial Asylum,

Recalling further the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969[180] and the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,[181]

Recalling the Khartoum Declaration[182] and the Recommendations on Refugees, Returnees and Internally Displaced Persons in Africa[183] adopted by the Organization of African Unity[184] at the ministerial meeting held at Khartoum on 13 and 14 December 1998,

Welcoming decision CM/Dec.667 (LXXVI) on the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa adopted by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-sixth ordinary session, held at Durban, South Africa, from 28 June to 6 July 2002,

Welcoming also decision AHG/Dec.165 (XXXVII) on the fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity at its thirty-seventh ordinary session, held at Lusaka from 9 to 11 July 2001,[185]

Recalling General Assembly resolution 57/2 of 16 September 2002 on the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development, and affirming that international support for the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development[186] is essential, notably as it relates to refugees, returnees and displaced persons,

Reaffirming that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees,[187] together with the 1967 Protocol thereto,[188] as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remains the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa,

Recognizing that the fundamental principles and rights embodied in those Conventions have provided a resilient protection regime within which millions of refugees have been able to find safety from armed conflicts and persecution,

Welcoming in that regard the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of States Parties to the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, held at Geneva on 12 and 13 December 2001,[189] as an expression of their collective commitment to full and effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocol,

Recalling the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969, and noting its endorsement by the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity at its seventy-second ordinary session, held at Lomé from 6 to 8 July 2000,[190]

Commending the First Ministerial Conference on Human Rights in Africa of the Organization of African Unity, held at Grand Baie, Mauritius, from 12 to 16 April 1999, and recalling the attention paid to issues relevant to refugees and displaced persons in the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the Conference,

Recognizing the contributions made by African States to the development of regional standards for the protection of refugees and returnees, and noting with appreciation that countries of asylum are hosting refugees in a humanitarian spirit and in a spirit of African solidarity and brotherhood,

Recognizing also the need for States to address resolutely the root causes of forced displacement and to create conditions that facilitate durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons, and stressing in that regard the need for States to foster peace, stability and prosperity throughout the African continent to forestall large refugee flows,

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[179] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Ethiopia (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States), Finland, Gabon, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Portugal, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[180] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1001, No. 14691.

[181] Ibid., vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[182] A/54/682, annex I.

[183] Ibid., annex II.

[184] On 8 July 2002, the Organization of African Unity ceased to exist and, in its place, the African Union came into force on 9 July 2002.

[185] See A/56/457, annex I.

[186] A/57/304, annex.

[187] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[188] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[189] HCR/MMSP/2001/10, annex I.

[190] See A/55/286, annex I, decision CM/Dec.531 (LXXII), para. 8.

Convinced of the need to strengthen the capacity of States to provide assistance to and protection for refugees, returnees and displaced persons and of the need for the international community, within the context of burden-sharing, to increase its material, financial and technical assistance to the countries affected by refugees, returnees and displaced persons, to simultaneously address the inadequacies of existing assistance arrangements and to support initiatives in this regard,

Acknowledging with appreciation that some assistance is already rendered by the international community to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and host countries in Africa,

Deeply concerned about the continuing critical humanitarian situation in African countries, in particular in the Horn of Africa and southern Africa, aggravated, among other things, by persistent natural disasters, including drought, floods and desertification, which can precipitate the displacement of people,

Noting with great concern that, despite all the efforts made so far by the United Nations, the African Union and others, the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Africa remains precarious,

Stressing that the provision of relief and assistance to African refugees by the international community should be on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis,

Considering that, among refugees, returnees and internally displaced persons, women and children are the majority of the population affected by conflict and bear the brunt of atrocities and other consequences of conflict,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General[191] and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;[192]

2. *Notes with concern* that the deteriorating socio-economic situation, compounded by political instability, internal strife, human rights violations and natural disasters, has led to increased numbers of refugees and displaced persons in some countries of Africa, and remains particularly concerned about the impact of large-scale refugee populations on the security, socio-economic situation and environment of countries of asylum;

3. *Encourages* African States to ensure the full implementation of and follow-up to the Comprehensive Implementation Plan adopted by the Special Meeting of Governmental and Non-Governmental Technical Experts convened by the Organization of African Unity and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees at Conakry from 27 to 29 March 2000 on the occasion of the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Organization of African Unity Convention governing the specific aspects of refugee problems in Africa of 1969;[180]

4. *Calls upon* States and other parties to armed conflict to observe scrupulously the letter and the spirit of international humanitarian law, bearing in mind that armed conflict is one of the principal causes of forced displacement in Africa;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* for the leadership shown by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since assuming office in January 2001, and commends the Office of the High Commissioner for its ongoing efforts, with the support of the international community, to assist African countries of asylum and to respond to the protection and assistance needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

6. *Takes note* of the Ministerial Meeting of States Parties to the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees as an expression of their collective commitment to full and effective implementation of the Convention[187] and the Protocol;[188]

7. *Welcomes* the contribution of the process of Global Consultations on International Protection to strengthening the international framework for refugee protection and to equipping States to better address the challenges in a spirit of dialogue and cooperation, and welcomes in that connection the Agenda for Protection;[193]

8. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, as complemented by the Organization of African Unity Convention of 1969, remain the foundation of the international refugee protection regime in Africa, encourages African States that have not yet done so to accede to those instruments, and calls upon States parties to the Conventions to reaffirm their commitment to their ideals and to respect and observe their provisions;

9. *Notes* the need for States to address the root causes of forced displacement in Africa, and calls upon African States, the international community and relevant United Nations organizations to take concrete action to meet the needs of refugees, returnees and displaced persons for protection and assistance and to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating their plight;

10. *Also notes* the link, inter alia, between human rights violations, poverty, natural disasters and environmental degradation and population displacement, and calls for redoubled and concerted efforts by States, in collaboration with the African Union, to promote and protect human rights for all and to address those problems;

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[191] A/57/324.

[192] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/57/12).

[193] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/57/12/Add.1), annex IV.

11. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to continue to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, within their respective mandates, in the promotion and protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa;

12. *Notes with appreciation* the ongoing mediation and conflict resolution efforts carried out by African States, the African Union and subregional organizations, as well as the establishment of regional mechanisms for conflict prevention and resolution, and urges all relevant parties to address the humanitarian consequences of conflicts;

13. *Expresses its appreciation and strong support* for those African Governments and local populations that, in spite of the general deterioration of socio-economic and environmental conditions and overstretched national resources, continue to accept the additional burden imposed upon them by increasing numbers of refugees and displaced persons, in compliance with the relevant principles of asylum;

14. *Welcomes* the decision of African heads of State and Government to address the situation of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa within the context of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[186]

15. *Expresses its concern* about instances in which the fundamental principles of asylum are jeopardized by unlawful expulsion or refoulement or by threats to the life, physical security, integrity, dignity and well-being of refugees;

16. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international organizations, within their mandates, to take all necessary measures to ensure respect for the principles of refugee protection, and, in particular, to ensure that the civilian and humanitarian nature of refugee camps is not compromised by the presence or the activities of armed elements;

17. *Deplores* the deaths, injuries and other forms of violence sustained by staff members of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, urges States, parties to conflict and all other relevant actors to take all necessary measures to protect activities related to humanitarian assistance, to prevent attacks on and kidnapping of national and international humanitarian workers and to ensure their safety and security, calls upon States to investigate fully any crime committed against humanitarian personnel and to bring to justice persons responsible for such crimes, and calls upon organizations and aid workers to abide by the national laws and regulations of the countries in which they operate;

18. *Condemns* any exploitation of refugees, especially their sexual exploitation, and calls for those responsible for such deplorable acts to be brought to justice;

19. *Welcomes* the decision by the Office of the High Commissioner to put into place a code of conduct for humanitarian personnel aimed at preventing the exploitation of refugees, especially in the area of sexual exploitation;

20. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the African Union, subregional organizations and all African States, in conjunction with agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international community, to strengthen and revitalize existing partnerships and forge new ones in support of the international refugee protection system;

21. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, the international community and other concerned entities to intensify their support to African Governments through appropriate capacity-building activities, including training of relevant officers, disseminating information about refugee instruments and principles, providing financial, technical and advisory services to accelerate the enactment or amendment and implementation of legislation relating to refugees, strengthening emergency response and enhancing capacities for the coordination of humanitarian activities;

22. *Reaffirms* the right of return and also the principle of voluntary repatriation, appeals to countries of origin and countries of asylum to create conditions that are conducive to voluntary repatriation, and recognizes that, while voluntary repatriation remains the pre-eminent solution, local integration and third-country resettlement, where appropriate and feasible, are also viable options for dealing with the situation of African refugees who, owing to prevailing circumstances in their respective countries of origin, are unable to return home;

23. *Notes with satisfaction* the voluntary return of millions of refugees to their homelands following the successful repatriation and reintegration operations carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with the cooperation and collaboration of countries hosting refugees and countries of origin, and looks forward to other programmes to assist the voluntary repatriation and reintegration of all refugees in Africa;

24. *Appeals* to the international community to respond positively, in the spirit of solidarity and burden-sharing, to the third-country resettlement requests of African refugees, and notes with appreciation that some African countries have offered resettlement places for refugees;

25. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide financial and material assistance for the implementation of community-based development programmes in refugee-hosting areas, in agreement with host countries, which benefit both refugees and host communities, as appropriate;

26. *Welcomes* the programmes carried out by the Office of the High Commissioner with host Governments, the United Nations, non-governmental organizations and the international community to address the environmental and socio-economic impact of refugee populations;

27. *Calls upon* the international donor community to provide material and financial assistance for the implementation of programmes intended for the rehabilitation of the environment and infrastructure affected by refugees in countries of asylum;

28. *Expresses its concern* about the long stay of refugees in certain African countries, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to keep its programmes under review, in conformity with its mandate in the host countries, taking into account the increasing needs of refugees;

29. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of the High Commissioner to collate statistics, on a regular basis, on the number of refugees living outside refugee camps in certain African countries with a view to evaluating and addressing the needs of those refugees;

30. *Urges* the international community, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden-sharing, to continue to fund generously the refugee programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner and, taking into account the substantially increased needs of programmes in Africa, to ensure that Africa receives a fair and equitable share of the resources designated for refugees;

31. *Requests* all Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to pay particular attention to meeting the special needs of refugee women and children and displaced persons, including those with special protection needs;

32. *Calls upon* States and the Office of the High Commissioner to make renewed efforts to ensure that the rights, needs and dignity of elderly refugees are fully respected and addressed through appropriate programme activities;

33. *Expresses grave concern* about the plight of internally displaced persons in Africa, calls upon States to take concrete action to pre-empt internal displacement and to meet the protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons, recalls in that regard the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,[194] and urges the international community, led by relevant United Nations organizations, to contribute generously to national projects and programmes aimed at alleviating the plight of internally displaced persons;

34. *Invites* the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons to continue his ongoing dialogue with Member States and the intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, in accordance with his mandate, and to include information thereon in his reports to the Commission on Human Rights and the General Assembly;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, taking fully into account the efforts expended by countries of asylum, under the item entitled "Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions", and to present an oral report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/184

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/551, para. 20)[195]

57/184. New international humanitarian order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/73 of 4 December 2000 and those preceding it concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and cooperation in the humanitarian field,[196]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General[197] and his previous reports[198] containing the views of Governments and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations,

Recalling its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on the strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations, and the annex thereto,

Noting with appreciation the continuing efforts of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat in the context of the international response to emergencies,

Reaffirming the importance of adherence to internationally accepted norms and principles and the need to promote, as required, national and international legislation to meet actual and potential humanitarian challenges,

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[194] E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

[195] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Suriname and Thailand.

[196] Resolutions 36/136, 37/201, 38/125, 40/126, 42/120, 42/121, 43/129, 43/130, 45/101, 45/102, 47/106, 49/170, 51/74 and 53/124.

[197] A/57/583.

[198] A/37/145, A/38/450, A/40/358 and Add.1 and 2, A/41/472, A/43/734 and Add.1, A/45/524, A/47/352, A/49/577 and Corr.1, A/51/454, A/53/486 and A/55/545.

Noting the emphasis placed by the Secretary-General on promoting strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments,

Recognizing the importance of action at the national and regional levels and the role that regional organizations can play in certain cases to prevent humanitarian crises,

Aware of the important role that non-governmental agencies and the private sector can play in the humanitarian context,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/32 of 26 July 2002 on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the continuing efforts of the Secretary-General in the humanitarian field, and urges Governments to assist him in promoting a new international humanitarian order corresponding to new realities and challenges, including the development of an agenda for humanitarian action;

2. *Calls upon* Governments to provide expertise and the necessary means to identify the building blocks of such an order and agenda, plan the architecture and undertake the required supplementary activities;

3. *Invites* the Secretary-General to continue to promote strict adherence to refugee law, international humanitarian law, human rights and internationally accepted norms and principles in situations of armed conflict and complex emergencies;

4. *Reiterates* that international cooperation in the humanitarian field facilitates better understanding, mutual respect, confidence and tolerance among countries and peoples, thus contributing to a more just and non-violent world;

5. *Recognizes* that institutional arrangements and actions by governmental and non-governmental bodies require further strengthening so that they can respond more effectively and speedily to contemporary humanitarian problems;

6. *Invites* the Member States, the Secretary-General and the United Nations system to strengthen the capacities of regional and subregional organizations in the context of the response to complex humanitarian crises;

7. *Encourages* the private sector and non-governmental bodies to assist and support national and international efforts to respond to humanitarian challenges and to alleviate human suffering;

8. *Invites* the Independent Bureau for Humanitarian Issues to reinforce further its activities and its cooperation with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and the other relevant bodies of the United Nations system;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain in contact with Governments and the relevant international and non-governmental bodies and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order and compliance with refugee law, international humanitarian law and human rights instruments in armed conflicts and emergency situations.

RESOLUTION 57/185

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/551, para. 20)[199]

57/185. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council decision 2002/288 of 25 July 2002 concerning the enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Taking note also of the requests regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the note verbale dated 3 October 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[200] in the note verbale dated 19 October 2001 from the Permanent Mission of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General[201] and in the letter dated 12 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[202]

1. *Decides* to increase the number of members of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from sixty-one to sixty-four States;

2. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to elect the additional members at its resumed organizational session for 2003.

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[199] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, Benin, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, Gambia, Kenya, Lebanon, Malta, Nigeria, Qatar, Sudan and Yemen.

[200] E/2002/8.

[201] E/2002/7.

[202] E/2002/75.

RESOLUTION 57/186

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/551, para. 20)[203]

57/186. Continuation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/104 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to review, not later than at its fifty-seventh session, the arrangements for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with a view to determining whether the Office should be continued beyond 31 December 2003,

Recognizing the need for concerted international action on behalf of refugees and displaced persons of concern to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,

Considering the outstanding work that has been performed by the Office of the High Commissioner in providing international protection and material assistance to refugees and displaced persons, as well as in promoting permanent solutions to their problems,

Noting with deep appreciation the effective manner in which the Office of the High Commissioner has been dealing with various essential humanitarian tasks entrusted to it,

1. *Decides* to continue the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees for a further period of five years from 1 January 2004;

2. *Also decides* to review, not later than at its sixty-second session, the arrangements for the Office of the High Commissioner with a view to determining whether the Office should be continued beyond 31 December 2008;

3. *Further decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session proposals of the High Commissioner on the basis of his report, prepared in consultation with the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Secretary-General, regarding the strengthening of the capacity of the Office to carry out its mandate.

RESOLUTION 57/187

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/551, para. 20)[204]

57/187. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the activities of his Office[205] and the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-third session[206] and the conclusions and decisions contained therein,

Recalling its previous annual resolutions on the work of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since its establishment by the General Assembly,

Expressing its appreciation for the leadership shown by the High Commissioner, and commending the staff and implementing partners of the Office of the High Commissioner for the competent, courageous and dedicated manner in which they discharge their responsibilities,

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[203] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[204] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[205] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12* (A/57/12).

[206] Ibid., *Supplement No. 12A* (A/57/12/Add.1).

1. *Endorses* the report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees on the work of its fifty-third session;[206]

2. *Welcomes* the important work undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner and its Executive Committee in the course of the year and notes in this context the conclusion on the civilian and humanitarian character of asylum,[207] the conclusion on reception of asylum-seekers in the context of individual asylum systems[208] and the progress achieved with respect to recognizing the important contribution of host developing countries; welcomes also the importance attached to cooperation with the New Partnership for Africa's Development;[209] welcomes further the active engagement of the Office of the High Commissioner in the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Force on Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Humanitarian Crises and the drafting of a policy on sexual exploitation, and encourages the Office of the High Commissioner to continue combating such practices; and welcomes the renewed efforts made by the Office of the High Commissioner to promote durable solutions for refugees;

3. *Notes* that the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[210] and the 1967 Protocol thereto[211] have continuously served as the cornerstone of the international refugee protection regime, and welcomes in this context the Declaration adopted at the Ministerial Meeting of States Parties to the Convention and/or its Protocol, held at Geneva on 12 and 13 December 2001,[212] to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Convention, as an expression of their collective commitment to full and effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocol and to the values they embody;

4. *Reaffirms* that the 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol thereto remain the foundation of the international refugee regime and recognizes the importance of their full application by States parties, notes with satisfaction that one hundred and forty-four States are now parties to one instrument or to both, encourages States not parties to consider acceding to those instruments, underlines in particular the importance of full respect for the principle of non-refoulement, and recognizes that a number of States not parties to the international refugee instruments have shown a generous approach to hosting refugees;

5. *Notes* that fifty-four States are now parties to the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons[213] and that twenty-six States are parties to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness,[214] and encourages the High Commissioner to continue his activities on behalf of stateless persons;

6. *Welcomes* the contribution of the process of Global Consultations on International Protection to strengthening the international framework for refugee protection and to equipping States better to address the challenges in a spirit of dialogue and cooperation, and welcomes in this connection the Agenda for Protection;[215]

7. *Reiterates* that international protection is a dynamic and action-oriented function, carried out in cooperation with States and other partners, inter alia, to promote and facilitate the admission, reception and treatment of refugees and to ensure durable, protection-oriented solutions, bearing in mind the particular needs of vulnerable groups;

8. *Re-emphasizes* that the protection of refugees is primarily the responsibility of States, whose full and effective cooperation, action and political resolve are required to enable the Office of the High Commissioner to fulfil its mandated functions;

9. *Urges* all States and relevant non-governmental and other organizations, in conjunction with the Office of the High Commissioner, in a spirit of international solidarity and burden- and responsibility-sharing, to cooperate and to mobilize resources with a view to enhancing the capacity of and reducing the heavy burden borne by countries that have received large numbers of refugees and asylum-seekers, and calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to play its catalytic role in mobilizing assistance from the international community to address the root causes as well as the economic, environmental and social impact of large-scale refugee populations in developing countries, particularly least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition;

10. *Strongly reaffirms* the fundamental importance and the purely humanitarian and non-political character of the function of the Office of the High Commissioner of providing international protection to refugees and seeking permanent solutions to refugee problems, recalls that these solutions include voluntary repatriation and, where appropriate and feasible, local integration and resettlement in a third country, reaffirming that voluntary repatriation remains the preferred solution, supported by necessary rehabilitation and development assistance to facilitate sustainable reintegration;

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[207] Ibid., chap. III, sect. C.

[208] Ibid., sect. B.

[209] A/57/304, annex.

[210] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[211] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[212] HCR/MMSP/2001/10, annex I.

[213] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 360, No. 5158.

[214] Ibid., vol. 989, No. 14458.

[215] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 12A* (A/57/12/Add.1), annex IV.

11. *Emphasizes* the obligation of all States to accept the return of their nationals, calls upon States to facilitate the return of their nationals who have been determined not to be in need of international protection, and affirms the need for the return of persons to be undertaken in a safe and humane manner and with full respect for their human rights and dignity, irrespective of the status of the persons concerned;

12. *Recognizes* that adequate and timely resources are essential for the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to fulfil the mandate conferred upon it through its statute,[216] and by subsequent General Assembly resolutions concerning refugees and other persons of concern, and urges Governments and other donors to respond promptly to the global appeal issued by the Office for requirements under its annual programme budget;

13. *Requests* the High Commissioner to report on his activities to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/188

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/552, para. 25),[217] by a recorded vote of 108 to 5, with 60 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/188. Situation of and assistance to Palestinian children

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[218]

Recalling also the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[219]

Recalling further the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-seventh special session,[220]

Concerned that the Palestinian children under Israeli occupation remain deprived of many basic rights under the Convention,

Concerned also about the recent grave deterioration of the situation of Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and about the severe consequences of the continuing Israeli assaults and sieges on Palestinian cities, towns, villages and refugee camps, resulting in the dire humanitarian crisis,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence resulting in extensive loss of human life and injuries, including among Palestinian children,

Deeply concerned about the consequences, including psychological consequences, of the Israeli military actions for the present and future well-being of Palestinian children,

1. *Stresses* the urgent need for Palestinian children to live a normal life, free from foreign occupation, destruction and fear, in their own State;

2. *Demands*, in the meantime, that Israel, the occupying Power, respect relevant provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[218] and comply fully with the provisions of the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949,[221] in order to ensure the well-being and protection of Palestinian children and their families;

3. *Calls upon* the international community to provide urgently needed assistance and services in an effort to alleviate

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[216] Resolution 428 (V), annex.

[217] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[218] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[219] A/45/625, annex.

[220] See resolution S-27/2, annex.

[221] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

the dire humanitarian crisis being faced by Palestinian children and their families and to help in the reconstruction of relevant Palestinian institutions.

RESOLUTION 57/189

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/552, para. 25)[222]

57/189. The girl child

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/139 of 19 December 2001 and all relevant resolutions, including the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women, in particular those relevant to the girl child,

Reaffirming the equal rights of women and men as enshrined, inter alia, in the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[223] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[224]

Welcoming the entry into force of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[225]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted on 8 September 2000,[226]

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly at its special session on children, on 10 May 2002, of the outcome document entitled "A world fit for children",[227]

Reaffirming the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth special session,[228]

Recalling all other relevant United Nations conferences, the Beijing Declaration[229] and Platform for Action[230] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[231] and the outcome documents of the recent five-year reviews of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development[232] and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,[233]

Reaffirming the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[234]

Recalling the Declaration and Agenda for Action adopted at the World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996,[235] and welcoming the Yokohama Global Commitment 2001 adopted at the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001,[236]

Recalling also the International Conference on War-Affected Children, held at Winnipeg, Canada, from 10 to 17 September 2000, and affirming the ongoing importance of the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children[237] for all children affected by armed conflict,

Recognizing the need to achieve gender equality to ensure a just and equitable world for girls,

Deeply concerned about discrimination against the girl child and the violation of the rights of the girl child, which often result in less access for girls to education, nutrition and physical and mental health care and in girls enjoying fewer of the rights, opportunities and benefits of childhood and adolescence than boys and often being subjected to various forms of cultural, social, sexual and economic exploitation and to violence and harmful practices, such as female infanticide, incest, early marriage, prenatal sex selection and female genital mutilation,

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[222] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[223] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[224] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[225] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[226] See resolution 55/2.

[227] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[228] Resolution S-26/2, annex.

[229] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[230] Ibid., annex II.

[231] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[232] Resolution S-21/2, annex.

[233] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[234] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[235] A/51/385, annex.

[236] See A/S-27/12, annex.

[237] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

Deeply concerned also that, in situations of poverty, war and armed conflict, girl children are among those most affected and that their potential for full development is thus limited,

Concerned that the girl child has furthermore become the victim of sexually transmitted diseases and increasingly of the human immunodeficiency virus, which have a serious impact on the quality of her life and leave her open to further discrimination,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and can be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and limitation or denial of their human rights,

1. *Stresses* the need for full and urgent implementation of the rights of the girl child as guaranteed to her under all human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child[224] and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[223] as well as the need for universal ratification of those instruments;

2. *Urges* States to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[238] and the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[225]

3. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures and to institute legal reforms to ensure the full and equal enjoyment by the girl child of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to take effective action against violations of those rights and freedoms and to base programmes and policies for the girl child on the rights of the child;

4. *Urges* all Governments and the United Nations system to strengthen efforts bilaterally and with international organizations and private sector donors in order to achieve the goals of the World Education Forum,[234] in particular that of eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and to implement the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative as a means of reaching this goal, and reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[226] in this regard;

5. *Calls upon* all States to take measures to address the obstacles that continue to affect the achievement of the goals set forth in the Beijing Platform for Action,[230] as contained in paragraph 33 of the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[239] where appropriate, including the strengthening of national mechanisms to implement policies and programmes for the girl child and, in some cases, to enhance coordination among responsible institutions for the realization of the human rights of girls, as indicated in the further actions and initiatives;

6. *Urges* States to enact and strictly enforce laws to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the free and full consent of the intending spouses, to enact and strictly enforce laws concerning the minimum legal age of consent and the minimum age for marriage and to raise the minimum age for marriage where necessary;

7. *Also urges* States to fulfil their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, as well as the commitment to implement the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century";[231]

8. *Urges* all States to enact and enforce legislation to protect girls from all forms of violence and exploitation, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, female genital mutilation, rape, domestic violence, incest, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, child prostitution and child pornography, trafficking and forced labour, and to develop age-appropriate safe and confidential programmes and medical, social and psychological support services to assist girls who are subjected to violence;

9. *Urges* States to formulate comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, which should be widely disseminated and should provide targets and timetables for implementation, as well as effective domestic enforcement procedures through the establishment of monitoring mechanisms involving all parties concerned, including consultations with women's organizations, giving attention to the recommendations relating to the girl child of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences;

10. *Calls upon* all States and international and non-governmental organizations, individually and collectively, to implement further the Beijing Platform for Action, in particular the strategic objectives relating to the girl child, and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

11. *Urges* States to take special measures for the protection of war-affected girls and in particular to protect them from sexually transmitted diseases, such as the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), gender-based violence, including rape and sexual abuse, and sexual exploitation, torture, abduction and forced labour, paying special attention to refugee and displaced girls, and to take into account the special needs of the war-affected

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[238] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[239] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

girl child in the delivery of humanitarian assistance and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes;

12. *Urges* all States and the international community to respect, protect and promote the rights of the child, taking into account the particular vulnerabilities of the girl child in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict situations, and calls for special initiatives designed to address all of the rights and needs of war-affected girls;

13. *Calls upon* Governments, civil society, including the media, and non-governmental organizations to promote human rights education and the full respect for and enjoyment of the human rights of the girl child, inter alia, through the translation, production and dissemination of age-appropriate information material on those rights to all sectors of society, in particular to children;

14. *Calls upon* States and international and non-governmental organizations to mobilize all necessary resources, support and efforts to realize the goals, strategic objectives and actions set out in the Beijing Platform for Action and the further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chairman of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to ensure that all organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, individually and collectively, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Labour Organization, take into account the rights and the particular needs of the girl child in the country programme of cooperation in accordance with the national priorities, including through the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;[240]

16. *Requests* all human rights treaty bodies, special procedures and other human rights mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and its Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to adopt regularly and systematically a gender perspective in the implementation of their mandates and to include in their reports information on the qualitative analysis of violations of the human rights of women and girls, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation and coordination in that regard;

17. *Stresses* the importance of a substantive assessment of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action with a life-cycle perspective so as to identify gaps and obstacles in the implementation process and to develop further actions for the achievement of the goals of the Platform for Action;

18. *Requests* Member States to ensure that, in preventing and addressing HIV/AIDS, particular attention is paid to the girl child infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and to provide the Secretary-General with information in this regard to help in the preparation of his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, as requested in the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS.[228]

RESOLUTION 57/190

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/552, para. 25),[241] by a recorded vote of 175 to 2, with no abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo,

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[240] See A/53/226, paras. 72–77, and A/53/226/Add.1, paras. 88–98.

[241] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States), Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia.

Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Marshall Islands, United States of America

Abstaining: None

57/190. Rights of the child

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming all of its resolutions on the rights of the child, in particular resolutions 55/78 and 55/79 of 4 December 2000, recalling resolution 56/138 of 19 December 2001, and taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/92 of 26 April 2002,[242]

Bearing in mind the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[243] emphasizing that the provisions of the Convention and other relevant human rights instruments must constitute the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and reaffirming that the best interest of the child shall be the primary consideration in all actions concerning children,

Welcoming the entry into force of the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[244]

Reaffirming the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s adopted by the World Summit for Children, held in New York on 29 and 30 September 1990,[245] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,[246] which, inter alia, states that national and international mechanisms and programmes for the defence and protection of children, in particular those in especially difficult circumstances, should be strengthened, including through effective measures to combat the exploitation and abuse of children, female infanticide, harmful child labour, the sale of children and organs, child prostitution and child pornography, and which reaffirms that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal,

Welcoming the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on children[247] and the firm commitments contained therein to promote and protect the rights of each child – every human being below the age of 18 years, including adolescents,

Welcoming also the Yokohama Global Commitment 2001 adopted at the Second World Congress against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, held at Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001,[248] and calling upon States to consider its outcome,

Welcoming further the integration of issues of child rights in the outcome documents of all major United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits,

Profoundly concerned that the situation of girls and boys in many parts of the world remains critical as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions in an increasingly globalized world economy, pandemics, in particular the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, malaria and tuberculosis, natural disasters, armed conflict, displacement, exploitation, violence, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

Underlining the need for mainstreaming a gender perspective in all policies and programmes relating to children,

Recognizing the need for the realization of a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development, the protection of the child from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the provision of universal and equal access to primary education and the implementation of the commitments on the education of children contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[249]

Concerned at the number of illegal adoptions, of children growing up without parents and of child victims of different forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect within and outside the family,

Concerned also by cases of international kidnapping of children by one of the parents,

Recognizing that partnership among Governments, international organizations and all sectors of civil society, in particular non-governmental organizations and the private sector, is important to realizing the rights of the child,

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[242] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[243] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[244] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[245] A/45/625, annex.

[246] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[247] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[248] See A/S-27/12, annex.

[249] See resolution 55/2, para. 19.

I

Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

1. *Once again urges* the States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify or accede to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] as a matter of priority with a view to reaching the goal of universal adherence as soon as possible;

2. *Reiterates its concern* at the great number of reservations to the Convention, and urges States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and to review on a regular basis any reservations with a view to withdrawing them;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to implement fully the Convention, while stressing that the implementation of the Convention contributes to the achievement of the goals of the World Summit for Children and the special session of the General Assembly on children, and of the goals and objectives endorsed at the relevant major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions;

4. *Urges* States to assure the child who is capable of forming his or her own views the right to express those views freely in all matters that affect him or her, the views being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, and in this regard to involve children and young people in their efforts to implement the goals of the Summit and the special session of the General Assembly on children, as well as in other programmes relating to children and young people, as appropriate;

5. *Calls upon* States parties to cooperate closely with the Committee on the Rights of the Child and to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and encourages States parties to take into account the recommendations made by the Committee in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee, notes the temporary support given by the plan of action of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to strengthen the important role of the Committee in advancing the implementation of the Convention, and also requests the Secretary-General to make available information on the follow-up to the plan of action;

7. *Calls upon* States parties urgently to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to paragraph 2 of article 43 of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible in order for the amendment to enter into force, thus increasing the membership of the Committee from ten to eighteen experts, bearing in mind, inter alia, the additional workload of the Committee when the two Optional Protocols to the Convention enter into force;

8. *Invites* the Committee to continue to enhance its constructive dialogue with the States parties and its transparent and effective functioning;

9. *Recommends* that, within their mandates, all relevant human rights mechanisms and all other relevant organs and mechanisms of the United Nations system and the supervisory bodies of the specialized agencies pay attention to particular situations in which children are in danger and in which their rights are violated and that they take into account the work of the Committee, and encourages the further development of the rights-based approach adopted by the United Nations Children's Fund and further steps to increase system-wide coordination and inter-agency cooperation for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child;

10. *Encourages* the Committee, in monitoring the implementation of the Convention, to continue to pay attention to the needs of children in especially difficult circumstances;

11. *Reaffirms* the importance of ensuring adequate and systematic training in the rights of the child for professional groups working with and for children, including specialized judges, law enforcement officials, lawyers, social workers, medical doctors, health professionals and teachers, and of coordination among various governmental bodies involved in children's rights, and encourages States and relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to promote education and training in this regard;

12. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, as well as relevant non-governmental organizations and child rights advocates, to continue to contribute, as appropriate, to the web-based database launched by the United Nations Children's Fund so as to continue the provision of information on laws, structures, policies and processes adopted at the national level to translate the Convention into practice, and in this regard commends that body for its work to disseminate lessons learned in the implementation of the Convention;

II

Protection and promotion of the rights of children

Identity, family relations and birth registration

1. *Calls upon* all States to intensify efforts to ensure the registration of all children immediately after birth, including through the consideration of simplified, expeditious and effective procedures;

2. *Also calls upon* all States to undertake to respect the right of the child to preserve his or her identity, including nationality, name and family relations as recognized by law,

without unlawful interference and, where a child is illegally deprived of some or all of the elements of his or her identity, to provide appropriate assistance and protection with a view to re-establishing speedily his or her identity;

3. *Urges* all States to ensure, as far as possible, the right of the child to know and be cared for by his or her parents;

4. *Also urges* all States to ensure that a child shall not be separated from his or her parents against their will, except when the competent authorities, subject to judicial review, determine, in accordance with applicable law and procedures, that such separation is necessary in the best interest of the child, and, where alternative care is necessary, to promote family and community-based care in preference to placement in institutions, recognizing that such determination may be necessary in a particular case, such as one involving abuse or neglect of the child by the parents or one in which the parents are living separately and a decision must be made as to the child's place of residence;

5. *Recalls* paragraph 15 of the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on children,[247] which states that the family is the basic unit of society and as such should be strengthened; that it is entitled to receive comprehensive protection and support; that the primary responsibility for the protection, upbringing and development of children rests with the family; and that all institutions of society should respect children's rights and secure their well-being and render appropriate assistance to parents, families, legal guardians and other caregivers so that children can grow and develop in a safe and stable environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding, bearing in mind that, in different cultural, social and political systems, various forms of the family exist;

6. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to ensure that the best interest of the child is the primary consideration in adoptions of children and to take all necessary measures to prevent and combat illegal adoptions and adoptions which do not follow the normal procedures;

7. *Also calls upon* States to take all necessary measures to address the problem of children growing up without parents, in particular orphaned children and children who are victims of family and social violence, neglect and abuse;

8. *Urges* States to address cases of international kidnapping of children by one of the parents;

Health

9. *Calls upon* all States and relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, in particular the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund, to pay particular attention to the development of sustainable health systems and social services to ensure the effective prevention of disease, malnutrition, disability and infant and child mortality, including through prenatal and post-natal health care, as well as the provision of necessary medical treatment and health care to all children, taking into consideration the special needs of young children and girls, including prevention of common infectious diseases, the special needs of adolescents, including those relating to reproductive and sexual health and threats from substance abuse and violence, and the particular needs of children living in poverty, children in situations of armed conflict and children in other vulnerable groups, and to strengthen ways of empowering families and communities;

10. *Calls upon* all States to adopt all necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children affected by disease and malnutrition, including protection from all forms of discrimination, abuse or neglect, in particular in the access to and provision of health care;

11. *Welcomes* the attention given by the Committee on the Rights of the Child to the realization of the highest attainable standards of health and access to health care and to the rights of children affected by the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS);

12. *Urges* States to give particular emphasis to the prevention of HIV infection in young children and strengthen efforts to prevent adolescents and women from becoming HIV-infected, inter alia, by including HIV/AIDS prevention in educational curricula and educational programmes consistent with the epidemiology of the diseases in each State, and by supporting wide-scale voluntary HIV testing and counselling programmes for pregnant women, together with services for HIV-infected pregnant women to reduce the risk of transmitting the virus from infected pregnant women to their children;

13. *Urges* all States to take all necessary measures to protect children infected or affected by HIV/AIDS from all forms of discrimination, stigma, abuse and neglect, in particular in the access to and provision of health, education and social services, with a view to the realization of their rights;

14. *Calls upon* the international community, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify their support of national efforts against HIV/AIDS aimed at providing assistance to children infected or affected by the epidemic, including those orphaned as a result of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, focusing in particular on the worst-hit regions of Africa and areas in which the epidemic is severely setting back national development gains, calls upon them also to give importance to the treatment, care and support of children infected with HIV/AIDS, and invites them to consider further involving the private sector;

15. *Urges* all States to assign priority to activities and programmes aimed at preventing the abuse of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and inhalants as well as preventing other addictions, in particular addiction to alcohol and tobacco, among children and young people, especially those in

vulnerable situations, and urges all States to counter the use of children and young people in the illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

16. *Also urges* all States to make appropriate treatment and rehabilitation accessible to children, including adolescents, dependent on narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, inhalants and alcohol;

Education

17. *Calls upon* States to recognize the right to education on the basis of equal opportunity by making primary education compulsory and ensuring that all children have access to free and relevant primary education, as well as by making secondary education generally available and accessible to all, in particular by the progressive introduction of free education;

18. *Reaffirms* the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum[250] and calls for its full implementation, and in this regard invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to implement its mandated role in coordinating Education for All partners and maintaining their collaborative momentum;

19. *Invites* Member States to develop national plans of action, or to strengthen existing ones, in order to achieve the objectives of Education for All so as to ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling;

20. *Calls upon* all States to eliminate the gender gap in education, reaffirms the commitment contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration to ensure equal access for girls and boys to all levels of education and the completion of a full course of primary schooling by children everywhere, boys and girls alike, by 2015,[249] and in this regard encourages the implementation of the United Nations Girls' Education Initiative launched by the Secretary-General at the World Education Forum;

21. *Calls upon* States to ensure that emphasis is given to the qualitative aspects of education, that the education of the child is carried out, that States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] develop and implement programmes for the education of the child, in accordance with articles 28 and 29 of the Convention, and that education is directed, inter alia, to the development of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to the preparation of the child for a responsible life in a free society in a spirit of understanding, peace, tolerance, gender equality and friendship among peoples, ethnic, national and religious groups and persons of indigenous origin, and to ensure that children, from an early age, benefit from education on values, attitudes, modes of behaviour and ways of life that will enable them to resolve any dispute peacefully and in a spirit of respect for human dignity and of tolerance and non-discrimination, bearing in mind the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace;[251]

22. *Calls upon* all States to take all appropriate measures to prevent racist, discriminatory and xenophobic attitudes and behaviour by means of education, keeping in mind the important role that children have to play in changing such practices;

23. *Also calls upon* all States to remove educational disparities and make education accessible to children living in poverty, children living in remote areas, children with special educational needs, children affected by armed conflict and children requiring special protection, including refugee children, migrant children, street children, children deprived of their liberty, indigenous children and children belonging to minorities;

24. *Calls upon* States, educational institutions and the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Development Fund for Women and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to develop and implement gender-sensitive strategies to address the particular needs of the girl child in education;

Freedom from violence

25. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to protect children from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

26. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children from all forms of violence, including physical, mental and sexual violence, torture, child abuse, abuse by police, other law enforcement authorities and employees and officials in detention centres or welfare institutions, including orphanages, and domestic violence;

27. *Also calls upon* States to investigate and submit cases of torture and other forms of violence against children to the competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution and to impose appropriate disciplinary or penal sanctions against those responsible for such practices;

28. *Requests* all relevant human rights mechanisms, in particular special rapporteurs and working groups, within their mandates, to pay attention to the special situations of violence against children, reflecting their experiences in the field;

29. *Reaffirms* its decision to request the Secretary-General to conduct an in-depth study of the question

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[250] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[251] Resolutions 53/243 A and B.

of violence against children, and encourages him to appoint, as soon as possible, an independent expert to direct the study, in collaboration with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Health Organization, taking into account the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on children[247] and the recommendations made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child after its two days of general discussion on violence against children;[252]

30. *Calls upon* the Governments of all States, in particular States in which the death penalty has not been abolished, to comply with the obligations that they have assumed under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, including in particular articles 37 to 40 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and articles 6 and 14 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[253]

III

Promotion and protection of the rights of children in particularly vulnerable situations and non-discrimination against children

Plight of children working and/or living on the streets

1. *Calls upon* Governments to seek comprehensive solutions to the problems that cause children to work and/or live on the streets and to implement appropriate programmes and policies for the protection and the rehabilitation and reintegration of those children, bearing in mind that such children are particularly vulnerable to all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect;

2. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that basic social services, notably education, are provided for children in order to divert them from and to address the economic imperatives that lead to involvement in harmful, exploitative and abusive activity;

3. *Strongly urges* all Governments to guarantee respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the right to life, to take urgent and effective measures to prevent the killing of children working and/or living on the streets, to combat torture and abusive treatment and violence against them and to bring the perpetrators to justice;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take the situation of children working and/or living on the streets into account when preparing reports for submission to the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and encourages the Committee and other relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, within their existing mandates, to pay increased attention to the question of children working and/or living on the streets;

5. *Calls upon* the international community to support, through effective international cooperation, including technical advice and assistance, the efforts of States to improve the situation of children working and/or living on the streets;

Refugee and internally displaced children

6. *Urges* Governments to improve the implementation of policies and programmes for the protection, care and well-being of refugee and internally displaced children and for the provision of basic social services, including access to education, with the necessary international cooperation, in particular with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the United Nations Children's Fund and the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons, in accordance with the obligations of States under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;[243]

7. *Calls upon* all States and other parties to armed conflict, as well as United Nations organizations and bodies, to give urgent attention, in terms of protection and assistance, to the fact that refugee and internally displaced children are particularly exposed to risks in connection with armed conflict, such as being forcibly recruited or subjected to sexual violence, abuse or exploitation;

8. *Expresses its deep concern* about the growing number of refugee and internally displaced children who are unaccompanied or separated from their families, and calls upon all States and United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations to give priority to programmes for family tracing and reunification and to continue to monitor the care arrangements for refugee and internally displaced children who are unaccompanied or separated from their families;

Children with disabilities

9. *Encourages* the working group on the rights of children with disabilities established pursuant to the decision of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to put into practice as soon as possible the recommendations arising from the day of general discussion on the rights of children with disabilities, held on 6 October 1997,[254] including the drafting of a plan of action on children with disabilities, in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development and other relevant parts of the United Nations system;

10. *Encourages* the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on

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[252] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 41* and corrigendum (A/57/41 and Corr.1), sect. IV.C.

[253] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[254] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/53/41), sect. IV.C.2; and ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/55/41), sect. IV.C.2.

Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities to consider the issue of children with disabilities in its deliberations;

11. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by children with disabilities, and to develop and enforce legislation against their discrimination so as to ensure dignity, promote self-reliance and facilitate their active participation in the community, including effective access to educational and health services;

Migrant children

12. *Calls upon* States to protect all human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, and to ensure that the best interest of the child shall accordingly be a primary consideration, and encourages the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Children's Fund and other relevant United Nations bodies, within their respective mandates, to pay particular attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, as appropriate, to make recommendations to strengthen their protection;

13. *Also calls upon* States to cooperate fully with and assist the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in addressing the particularly vulnerable conditions of migrant children;

IV

Prevention and eradication of the sale of children and of their sexual exploitation and abuse, including child prostitution and child pornography

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[255] and expresses its support for his work;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all necessary human and financial assistance to enable him to discharge his mandate fully;

3. *Calls upon* States to continue to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to give full consideration to all of his recommendations;

4. *Invites* further voluntary contributions through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and support for the work of the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his mandate;

5. *Welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography[256] and urges States parties to implement it fully, and also invites States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying it;

6. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] and the Optional Protocols thereto[244] to prevent the abduction of, the sale of or the trafficking in children for any purpose or in any form, including the transfer of the organs of the child for profit, and to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, in accordance with articles 35 and 34 of the Convention;

7. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate steps to combat the misuse of new information and communication technologies, including the Internet, for trafficking in children and for purposes of all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, in particular the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography, child sex tourism, acts of paedophilia and other forms of violence and abuse against children and adolescents, and notes that the use of such technologies can also contribute to preventing and eradicating such phenomena;

8. *Also calls upon* States to criminalize and to penalize effectively, in conformity with all relevant and applicable international instruments, all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse of children, including within the family or for commercial purposes, paedophilia, child pornography, child prostitution, child sex tourism, trafficking, the sale of children and their organs, engagement in forced child labour and any other form of exploitation, while ensuring that, in the treatment by the criminal justice system of children who are victims, the best interest of the child shall be a primary consideration, and to take effective measures to ensure the prosecution of offenders, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law;

9. *Calls upon* all Member States to take all necessary steps to strengthen international cooperation by means of multilateral, regional and bilateral arrangements for the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution and punishment of those responsible for acts involving the sale of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote international cooperation and coordination among their authorities, national and international non-governmental organizations and international organizations, as appropriate;

10. *Requests* States to increase cooperation and concerted action at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and dismantle networks that traffic in children;

11. *Stresses* the need to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices against children,

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[255] E/CN.4/2002/88.

[256] Resolution 54/263, annex II.

including through preventive and enforcement measures that target customers or individuals who sexually exploit or abuse children, and by ensuring public awareness;

12. *Calls upon* States to enact, enforce, review and revise, as appropriate, laws and to implement policies, programmes and practices to protect children from and to eliminate all forms of sexual exploitation and abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, taking into account the particular problems posed by the use of the Internet in this regard;

13. *Also calls upon* States to identify best practices and to take all appropriate national, bilateral and multilateral measures, to allocate resources for the development of long-term policies, programmes and practices, to collect comprehensive and disaggregated gender-specific data and, while reaffirming the right of children, including adolescents, to express themselves freely, to facilitate the participation of child victims of sexual exploitation, taking into account their age and maturity, in the development of strategies to end the sale of children and their organs, sexual exploitation and abuse, including the use of children for pornography, prostitution and acts of paedophilia, and to combat existing markets;

14. *Invites* all States to take into account, as appropriate, the Yokohama Global Commitment 2001[248] in their efforts towards the prevention and elimination of the commercial sexual exploitation of children;

15. *Urges* States to afford one another the greatest measure of assistance in connection with investigations or criminal or, where applicable, extradition proceedings brought in respect of the offences set forth in article 3, paragraph 1, of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, including assistance in obtaining evidence at their disposal for the proceedings;

16. *Calls upon* all States to contribute to the elimination of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography by adopting a holistic approach, addressing the contributing factors, including underdevelopment, poverty, economic disparity, inequitable socio-economic structures, dysfunctional families, irresponsible adult sexual behaviour, lack of education, urban-rural migration, gender discrimination, harmful traditional practices, armed conflict and trafficking in children;

17. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations organizations and bodies to allocate appropriate resources for the rehabilitation of child victims of sexual exploitation and abuse and to take all appropriate measures to promote their full recovery and social reintegration;

V

Protection of children affected by armed conflict

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;[257]

2. *Recognizes* the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative in paragraphs 35 to 37 of General Assembly resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, expresses its support for his work, in particular in raising worldwide awareness and mobilizing official and public opinion for the protection of children affected by armed conflict in order to promote respect for the rights and needs of children in conflict and post-conflict situations, and recommends that the Secretary-General extend the mandate for a further period of three years;

3. *Takes note* of further developments in the United Nations system response to the issue of children affected by armed conflict, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a comprehensive assessment of the scope and effectiveness of the United Nations system response, including recommendations for strengthening, mainstreaming, integrating and sustaining these activities, and to submit his report during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, for consideration at the beginning of the fifty-eighth session of the Assembly;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General and all relevant parts of the United Nations system, including the Special Representative and the United Nations Children's Fund, to intensify further their efforts to continue to develop a concerted approach to the rights, protection and welfare of children affected by armed conflict, including, as appropriate, in the preparations for the field visits of the Special Representative and in the follow-up to such visits;

5. *Calls upon* all States and other parties concerned to continue to cooperate with the Special Representative in implementing the commitments that they have undertaken and to consider carefully all of the recommendations of the Special Representative and address the issues identified;

6. *Welcomes* the continuing support for and voluntary contributions to the work of the Special Representative in the fulfilment of his mandate;

7. *Also welcomes* the entry into force of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[258] and urges States parties to implement it fully, and also invites States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying it;

8. *Urges* all States and other parties to armed conflict to respect international humanitarian law and to put an end to

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[257] See A/57/402.

[258] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

any form of targeting of children and to attacking sites that usually have a significant presence of children, calls upon States parties to respect fully the provisions of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[259] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[260] and calls upon all parties to armed conflict to take all measures required to protect children from acts that constitute violations of international humanitarian law, including prosecution by States, within their national legal framework, of those responsible for such violations;

9. *Recognizes*, in this regard, the contribution of the establishment of the International Criminal Court to ending impunity for perpetrators of certain crimes committed against children, as defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[261] which include those involving sexual violence or child soldiers, and thus to the prevention of such crimes;

10. *Stresses* the importance of all relevant United Nations actors in the field improving their reporting, within their respective mandates, concerning the situation of children affected by armed conflict and giving additional attention to this question;

11. *Condemns* the abduction of children in situations of armed conflict and into armed conflict, urges States, international organizations and other parties concerned to take all appropriate measures to secure the unconditional release, rehabilitation, reintegration and reunification with their families of all abducted children, and urges States to bring the perpetrators to justice;

12. *Calls upon* States to ensure that the adoption of children in situations of armed conflict is guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] and that the best interest of the child is always envisaged as a paramount consideration;

13. *Urges* States and all other parties to armed conflict to end the use of children as soldiers, to ensure their demobilization and effective disarmament and to implement effective measures for their rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society, further encourages efforts by, inter alia, regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to end the use of children as soldiers in armed conflict, and emphasizes that no support shall be given to those who systematically abuse or violate the rights of children during armed conflicts;

14. *Underlines* the importance of including measures to ensure the rights of the child, inter alia, in the areas of health and nutrition, formal, informal or non-formal education, physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration, in emergency and other humanitarian assistance policies and programmes;

15. *Reaffirms* the essential role of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council in the promotion and protection of the rights and welfare of children, takes note of the adoption of Security Council resolution 1379 (2001) on 20 November 2001, and notes the importance of the open debate on children and armed conflict held in the Security Council on 7 May 2002[262] and the undertaking by the Council to give special attention to the protection, welfare and rights of children when taking action aimed at maintaining peace and security;

16. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to ensure that children affected by armed conflict receive timely, effective and unhindered humanitarian assistance, in accordance with international humanitarian law;

17. *Reaffirms* agreed conclusions 1999/1 adopted by the Economic and Social Council on 23 July 1999,[263] in which the Council, inter alia, called for systematic, concerted and comprehensive inter-agency efforts on behalf of children, as well as adequate and sustainable resource allocation, to provide both immediate emergency assistance to and long-term measures for children throughout all the phases of an emergency;

18. *Urges* States to implement effective measures for the rehabilitation, physical and psychological recovery and reintegration into society of all child victims in cases of armed conflict, invites the international community to assist in this endeavour, and further emphasizes the importance of giving systematic consideration to the special needs and particular vulnerability of the girl child during conflicts and in post-conflict situations;

19. *Also urges* States to take duly into consideration measures for the special treatment and rehabilitation of child offenders;

20. *Calls upon* States and relevant United Nations bodies to continue to support national and international mine-action efforts, including by means of financial contributions, mine-awareness programmes, victim assistance and child-centred rehabilitation, and welcomes the positive effects on children of concrete legislative measures with respect to anti-personnel mines;

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[259] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[260] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[261] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[262] See S/PV.4528.

[263] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/54/3/Rev.1), chap. VI, para. 5.

21. *Invites* States, multilateral donors and the private sector to cooperate and to commit the resources necessary for the early development of new and more efficient mine-detection and mine-clearance technologies for assistance in mine action;

22. *Notes with concern* the impact of small arms and light weapons on children in situations of armed conflict, in particular as a result of their illicit production and traffic;

23. *Recommends* that, whenever sanctions are imposed, their impact on children be assessed and monitored and that humanitarian exemptions be child-focused and formulated with clear guidelines for their application;

24. *Calls upon* States, relevant United Nations organizations and bodies and regional organizations to integrate the rights of the child into all activities in conflict and post-conflict situations, including training programmes and emergency relief operations, country programmes and field operations aimed at promoting peace and preventing and resolving conflict, as well as the negotiation and implementation of peace agreements, and, given the long-term consequences for society, underlines the importance of including specific provisions for children, including resources, in peace agreements and in arrangements negotiated by parties;

25. *Calls upon* all States, in accordance with the norms of international humanitarian law, to integrate in the training and gender-sensitized education programmes of their armed forces, including those for peacekeeping, instruction on responsibilities towards the civilian population, in particular women and children;

26. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations to encourage the involvement of young people in activities concerning the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including programmes for reconciliation, peace consolidation, peace-building and children-to-children networks;

27. *Notes with appreciation* the appointment by the Secretary-General of child protection advisers in United Nations peacekeeping missions, and encourages him to continue to appoint such advisers, where appropriate, to existing and future peacekeeping operations;

28. *Also notes with appreciation* the Winnipeg Agenda for War-Affected Children[264] and efforts by regional organizations to include prominently in their policies and programmes the rights and protection of children affected by armed conflict;

VI

Progressive elimination of child labour

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying the conventions of the International Labour Organization relating to child labour, in particular the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (Convention No. 29), the Convention concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, 1973 (Convention No. 138) and the Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182), and to implement those conventions;

3. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, and urges them, inter alia, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour as set out in International Labour Organization Convention No. 182 of 1999;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to assess and systematically examine the magnitude, nature and causes of child labour and to elaborate and implement strategies for the elimination of child labour contrary to accepted international standards, giving special attention to specific dangers faced by girls, as well as to the rehabilitation and social reintegration of the children concerned;

5. *Recognizes* that primary education is one of the main instruments for reintegrating child workers, calls upon all States to recognize the right to education by making primary education compulsory and to ensure that all children have equal access to free primary education as a key strategy to prevent child labour, and recognizes, in particular, the important role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund in this regard;

6. *Calls upon* all States and the United Nations system to strengthen international cooperation as a means of assisting Governments in preventing or combating violations of the rights of the child and in attaining the objective of eliminating child labour contrary to accepted international standards;

7. *Calls upon* all States to strengthen cooperation and coordination at the national and international levels to address effectively the problem of child labour, in close cooperation with, inter alia, the International Labour Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund;

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[264] A/55/467-S/2000/973, annex.

VII

Decides:

(*a*) To request the Secretary-General to prepare a report on progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the final document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly, entitled "A world fit for children",[247] with a view to identifying problems and constraints and making recommendations on the action needed to achieve further progress, and to submit his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

(*b*) To include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children", which will be considered in plenary meeting;

(*c*) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child[243] and the problems addressed in the present resolution;

(*d*) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to submit to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights reports containing relevant information on the situation of children affected by armed conflict, taking into account the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its special session on children and bearing in mind existing mandates and reports of relevant bodies;

(*e*) To continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children".

RESOLUTION 57/191

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/553, para. 16)[265]

57/191. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22 of 28 July 2000, in which the Council established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, as well as Council decision 2001/316 of 26 July 2001 concerning the election/appointment of the sixteen members of the Forum and other organizational matters,

Recalling also its resolution 56/140 of 19 December 2001 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which it welcomed Council decision 2001/316,

Saluting the successful holding of the historic first annual session of the Forum at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 May 2002,

Having considered the report of the Forum on its first session,[266]

Wishing to strengthen, within the mandate of the Council, the interactive dialogue and partnership between the Forum and Governments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant international and regional organizations, indigenous people and indigenous peoples, as well as civil society at large,

Welcoming the creation of the Inter-Agency Support Group for the Forum,

Underlining the importance of securing adequate financial and secretariat support for the activities of the Forum, while reaffirming that the financing of the Forum shall be provided from within existing resources through the regular budget of the United Nations and its specialized agencies, funds and programmes and through such voluntary contributions as may be donated,

Recalling the decision of the Council taken in paragraph 8 of its resolution 2000/22 to conduct a review, without prejudging any outcome, of all existing mechanisms, procedures and programmes within the United Nations concerning indigenous issues, including the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, with a view to rationalizing activities, avoiding duplication and overlap and promoting effectiveness, and the decision of the Council to hold the review as soon as possible and not later than its substantive session of 2003, as stipulated in its decision 2001/316,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in connection with draft decisions I to IV recommended by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at its first session for adoption by the Economic and Social Council:[267]

(*a*) To appoint a secretariat unit, in accordance with the budget procedures established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat in New York, to assist the Forum in carrying out its mandate, as defined in paragraph 2 of Council resolution 2000/22;

(*b*) To establish a voluntary fund for the Forum for the purpose of funding the implementation of recommendations made by the Forum through the Council, in line with paragraph 2 (*a*) of Council resolution 2000/22, as well as funding activities under its mandate, as defined in paragraphs 2 (*b*) and (*c*) of the same resolution;

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[265] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted by the Economic and Social Council.

[266] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 23* (E/2002/43/Rev.1).

[267] Ibid., chap. I, sect. A.

2. *Encourages* the submission of applications of indigenous persons to the Secretariat, and invites the Secretary-General to give broad publicity to vacancies, when available;

3. *Invites* the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, including the Inter-Agency Support Group for the Forum, other relevant international and regional organizations and bodies, and indigenous people and indigenous peoples to assist the Forum in carrying out its mandate as enumerated in paragraph 2 of Council resolution 2000/22, including through the provision of staff;

4. *Urges* Governments, financial institutions and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to consider contributing to the voluntary fund for the Forum to be established by the Secretary-General;

5. *Takes note with interest* of the proposals, objectives, recommendations and areas of possible future action identified by the Forum in its report on its first session,[266] and invites States, organizations of the United Nations system, other relevant international and regional organizations, and indigenous people and indigenous peoples to take them into consideration and, where they so decide, to take action;

6. *Decides* to authorize an exceptional three-day pre-sessional meeting of the members of the Forum from 7 to 9 May 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/192

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/553, para. 16)[268]

57/192. International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/140 of 19 December 2001 and previous resolutions on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Recalling also its resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985, by which it established the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations,

Recalling further that the goal of the Decade is to strengthen international cooperation for the solution of problems faced by indigenous people in such areas as human rights, the environment, development, education and health, and that the theme of the Decade is "Indigenous people: partnership in action",

Welcoming, in this respect, the contributions made through the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the realization of the goals of the Decade,

Welcoming also, in this respect, the concluding documents of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[269]

Saluting the successful holding of the historic first annual session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 May 2002,

Welcoming the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people,[270] submitted to the Commission at its fifty-eighth session, pursuant to Commission resolution 2001/57 of 24 April 2001,[271]

Recognizing the importance of consultation and cooperation with indigenous people in planning and implementing the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,[272] the need for adequate financial support from the international community, including support from within the United Nations system, and the need for adequate coordination and communication channels,

Urging all parties to continue to use their best efforts to achieve the goals of the Decade,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;[273]

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[268] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liberia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Russian Federation, Senegal, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[269] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[270] E/CN.4/2002/97 and Add.1.

[271] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[272] Resolution 50/157, annex.

[273] A/57/395.

2. *Affirms its conviction* of the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous people and its conviction that the development of indigenous people within their countries will contribute to the socio-economic, cultural and environmental advancement of all the countries of the world;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of strengthening the human and institutional capacity of indigenous people to develop their own solutions to their problems;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, as coordinator for the Decade:

(*a*) To continue to promote the objectives of the Decade, taking into account, in the fulfilment of his functions, the special concerns of indigenous people;

(*b*) To give due regard to the dissemination, from within existing resources and voluntary contributions, of information on the situation, cultures, languages, rights and aspirations of indigenous people and, in that context, to consider the possibility of organizing projects, special events, exhibitions and other activities addressed to the public, in particular to young people;

(*c*) To submit, through the Secretary-General, an annual report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade;

5. *Reaffirms* the adoption of a declaration on the rights of indigenous people as a major objective of the Decade, and underlines the importance of effective participation by indigenous representatives in the open-ended intersessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with developing a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people, established pursuant to Commission resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995;[274]

6. *Welcomes* Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/28 of 25 July 2002 concerning the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;

7. *Encourages* Governments to support the Decade by:

(*a*) Preparing relevant programmes, plans and reports in relation to the Decade, in consultation with indigenous people;

(*b*) Seeking means, in consultation with indigenous people, of giving indigenous people greater responsibility for their own affairs and an effective voice in decisions on matters that affect them;

(*c*) Establishing national committees or other mechanisms involving indigenous people to ensure that the objectives and activities of the Decade are planned and implemented on the basis of full partnership with indigenous people;

(*d*) Contributing to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People;

(*e*) Contributing, together with other donors, to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations in order to assist indigenous representatives in participating in the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, the Working Group on Indigenous Populations of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and the open-ended intersessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights charged with elaborating a draft declaration on the rights of indigenous people;

(*f*) Considering contributing, as appropriate, to the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean, in support of the goals of the Decade;

(*g*) Identifying resources for activities designed to implement the goals of the Decade, in cooperation with indigenous people and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Invites* United Nations financial and development institutions, operational programmes and the specialized agencies and secretariats, as well as other regional and international organizations, in accordance with the existing procedures of their governing bodies:

(*a*) To give increased priority and resources to improving the conditions of indigenous people, with particular emphasis on the needs of those people in developing countries, inter alia, through the preparation of specific programmes of action for the implementation of the goals of the Decade, within their areas of competence;

(*b*) To launch special projects, through appropriate channels and in cooperation with indigenous people, to strengthen their community-level initiatives and to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise among indigenous people and other relevant experts;

(*c*) To designate focal points for the coordination of activities related to the Decade with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;

and commends those institutions, programmes, agencies and regional and international organizations that have already done so;

9. *Appeals* to all Governments and organizations to consider contributing to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions;

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[274] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

10. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General ensure coordinated follow-up to the recommendations concerning indigenous people of all relevant United Nations conferences;

11. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit, through the Secretary-General, a report on the implementation of the programme of activities for the Decade to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People".

RESOLUTION 57/193

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/553, para. 16)[275]

57/193. Indigenous people and issues

The General Assembly,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/22 of 28 July 2000, in which the Council established the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues,

Recalling also its resolution 56/140 of 19 December 2001 on the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, in which it welcomed Council decision 2001/316 of 26 July 2001 concerning the Forum,

Taking note of the report of the Forum on its first session, held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 13 to 24 May 2002,[276]

Recalling that the Forum shall serve as an advisory body to the Council, with a mandate to discuss indigenous issues within the mandate of the Council relating to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights,

Taking note of Council resolution 2002/28 of 25 July 2002,

Wishing to strengthen, within the mandate of the Council, the interactive dialogue and partnership between the Forum and Governments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, other relevant international and regional organizations, indigenous people and indigenous peoples, as well as civil society at large,

Invites the Secretary-General, on the basis of recommendations made by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues through the Economic and Social Council, to consider providing advice to the General Assembly on the need to identify further ways to assist the Forum in carrying out its mandate in a successful and fruitful manner, including the possibility of seeking the views of adviser(s).

RESOLUTION 57/194

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/554, para. 18)[277]

57/194. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and its resolutions on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[278] most recently its resolution 55/81 of 4 December 2000,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[279] in particular section II.B of the Declaration, relating to equality, dignity and tolerance,

Reiterating the need to intensify the struggle to eliminate all forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance throughout the world,

Welcoming the affirmation that universal adherence to and full implementation of the Convention are of paramount importance for promoting equality and non-discrimination in the world, as stated in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[280]

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[275] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, Dominica, Greece, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Pakistan, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Timor-Leste.

[276] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 23* (E/2002/43/Rev.1).

[277] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[278] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[279] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[280] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

Reiterating the importance of the Convention, which is one of the most widely accepted human rights instruments adopted under the auspices of the United Nations,

Mindful of the importance of the contributions of the Committee to the effective implementation of the Convention and to the efforts of the United Nations to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as all other forms of discrimination based on race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin,

Noting that the reports submitted by States parties under the Convention contain, inter alia, information about the causes of, as well as measures to combat, contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Emphasizing the obligation of all States parties to the Convention to take legislative, judicial and other measures in order to secure full implementation of the provisions of the Convention,

Recalling its resolution 47/111 of 16 December 1992, in which it welcomed the decision, taken on 15 January 1992 by the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[281] to amend paragraph 6 of article 8 of the Convention and to add a new paragraph, as paragraph 7 of article 8, with a view to providing for the financing of the Committee from the regular budget of the United Nations, and reiterating its deep concern that the amendment to the Convention has not yet entered into force,

Stressing the importance of enabling the Committee to function smoothly and to have all necessary facilities for the effective performance of its functions under the Convention,

I

Reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its fifty-eighth and fifty-ninth[282] and its sixtieth and sixty-first[283] sessions;

2. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing efforts to contribute to the effective implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[278] especially the examination of reports under article 9 and action on communications under article 14 of the Convention, which contribute to the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

3. *Calls upon* States parties to fulfil their obligation, under article 9, paragraph 1, of the Convention, to submit their periodic reports on measures taken to implement the Convention in due time;

4. *Expresses its concern* about the fact that a great number of reports are overdue and continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention;

5. *Encourages* States parties to the Convention whose reports are seriously overdue to avail themselves of the advisory services and technical assistance that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights can provide, upon their request, for the preparation of the reports;

6. *Commends* the Committee for its continuing contribution to the prevention of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and welcomes its relevant action thereon;

7. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to contribute fully to the implementation of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and its revised Programme of Action,[284] including by continuing to cooperate and exchange information with United Nations bodies and mechanisms and intergovernmental organizations, in particular with the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as well as with non-governmental organizations;

8. *Encourages* States parties to continue to include a gender perspective in their reports to the Committee, and invites the Committee to take into account a gender perspective in the implementation of its mandate;

9. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Committee for its valuable participation in and contributions to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, including its preparatory process;

10. *Invites* the Committee to consider the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action[280] in the discharge of its mandate;

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[281] See CERD/SP/45, annex.

[282] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 18* and corrigendum (A/56/18 and Corr.1).

[283] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18).

[284] Resolution 49/146, annex.

II

Financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination;[285]

2. *Expresses its profound concern* about the fact that a number of States parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[278] have still not fulfilled their financial obligations, as shown in the report of the Secretary-General, and strongly appeals to all States parties that are in arrears to fulfil their outstanding financial obligations under article 8, paragraph 6, of the Convention;

3. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to accelerate their domestic ratification procedures with regard to the amendment to the Convention concerning the financing of the Committee and to notify the Secretary-General expeditiously in writing of their agreement to the amendment, as decided upon at the Fourteenth Meeting of States Parties to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination on 15 January 1992,[281] endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/111 and further reiterated at the Sixteenth Meeting of States Parties on 16 January 1996;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure adequate financial arrangements and to provide the necessary support, including an adequate level of Secretariat assistance, to ensure the functioning of the Committee and to enable it to cope with its increasing amount of work;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite those States parties to the Convention that are in arrears to pay the amounts in arrears, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

III

Status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[286] on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination;[278]

2. *Expresses its satisfaction* at the number of States that have ratified the Convention or acceded thereto, which now stands at one hundred and sixty-five;

3. *Reaffirms once again its conviction* that ratification of or accession to the Convention on a universal basis and the implementation of its provisions are necessary for the realization of the objectives of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and for the implementation of the commitments undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;[280]

4. *Urges* all States that have not yet become parties to the Convention to ratify it or accede to it as a matter of urgency, with a view to achieving universal ratification by 2005;

5. *Urges* States to limit the extent of any reservation they lodge to the Convention and to formulate any reservation as precisely and as narrowly as possible so as to ensure that no reservation is incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or otherwise contrary to international treaty law, to review their reservations on a regular basis with a view to withdrawing them, and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law;

6. *Requests* the States parties to the Convention that have not yet done so to consider making the declaration provided for in article 14 of the Convention;

7. *Decides* to consider, at its fifty-ninth session, under the item entitled "Elimination of racism and racial discrimination", the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination on its sixty-second and sixty-third and its sixty-fourth and sixty-fifth sessions, the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee and the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention.

RESOLUTION 57/195

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/554, para. 18),[287] by a recorded vote of 173 to 3, with 2 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya,

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[285] A/57/333.

[286] A/57/334.

[287] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Venezuela (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China).

Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada

57/195. The fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/111 of 12 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and all other resolutions on this matter,

Recalling also its resolution 56/266 of 27 March 2002, in which it endorsed the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,[288] as constituting a solid foundation for further action and initiatives towards the total elimination of the scourge of racism,

Recalling further its resolutions 56/265 and 56/267 of 27 March 2002, on the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and on measures to combat contemporary forms of racism and racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Stressing that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[289] attaches importance to the elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and other forms of intolerance,

Convinced that the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance made an important contribution to achieving the goal of eradicating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and that the results of the Conference have to be fully implemented without delay through effective action,

Recognizing that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance occur on the grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin and that victims can suffer multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination based on other related grounds such as sex, language, religion, political and other opinion, social origin, property, birth or other status,

Convinced that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance reveal themselves in a differentiated manner for women and girls and may be among the factors leading to a deterioration in their living conditions, poverty, violence, multiple forms of discrimination and the limitation or denial of their human rights, and recognizing the need to integrate a gender perspective into relevant policies, strategies and programmes of action against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in order to address multiple forms of discrimination,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,[290]

Taking note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[291]

Reiterating that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and have the potential to contribute constructively to the development and well-being of their societies, and that any doctrine of racial superiority is scientifically false, morally condemnable, socially unjust and dangerous and must be rejected, together with theories that attempt to determine the existence of separate human races,

Reaffirming its firm determination and its commitment to eradicate totally and unconditionally racism and racial discrimination and its conviction that racism and racial discrimination constitute a negation of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[292]

Reaffirming also its commitment to a global drive for the total elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

Stressing the need for maintaining political will and momentum at the national, regional and international levels to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, taking into account commitments undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and recalling the importance of enhancing national action and international cooperation to this end,

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[288] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[289] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[290] A/57/83.

[291] See A/57/204.

[292] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recognizing that the successful implementation of the Programme of Action requires political will, international cooperation and adequate funding at the national, regional and international levels,

Deeply concerned that, despite continuing efforts, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and acts of violence persist and even grow in magnitude, incessantly adopting new forms, including tendencies to establish policies based on racial, religious, ethnic, cultural and national superiority or exclusivity,

Alarmed, in particular, at the increase in racist violence and xenophobic ideas in many parts of the world, in political circles, in the sphere of public opinion and in society at large, inter alia, as a result of the resurgent activities of associations established on the basis of racist and xenophobic platforms and charters, and the persistent use of those platforms and charters to promote or incite racist ideologies,

Reaffirming that universal adherence to and full implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[293] are of paramount importance for the promotion of equality and non-discrimination in the world,

Underlining the importance of urgently eliminating continuing and violent trends involving racism and racial discrimination, and conscious that any form of impunity for crimes motivated by racist and xenophobic attitudes plays a role in weakening the rule of law and democracy, tends to encourage the recurrence of such crimes and requires resolute action and cooperation for its eradication,

Recognizing that States should implement and enforce appropriate and effective legislative, judicial, regulatory and administrative measures to prevent and protect against acts of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, thereby contributing to the prevention of human rights violations,

Emphasizing that poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion and economic disparities are closely associated with racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and contribute to the persistence of racist attitudes and practices which in turn generate more poverty,

Recalling the adoption by the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[294]

Conscious of the fact that the history of humanity is replete with major atrocities as a result of gross violations of human rights, and believing that lessons can be learned from history to avert future tragedies,

Welcoming United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization resolution 31C/28 of 2 November 2001 on the proclamation of 2004 as International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition,[295] and in this context noting that organization's slave route project,

Deeply concerned about the misuse, by those advocating racism and racial discrimination, of new communications technologies, including the Internet, to disseminate their repugnant views,

Noting that the use of such technologies can also contribute to combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

I

Basic general principles

1. *Acknowledges* that no derogation from the prohibition of racial discrimination, genocide, the crime of apartheid or slavery is permitted, as defined in the obligations under the relevant human rights instruments;

2. *Expresses its profound concern about and its unequivocal condemnation* of all forms of racism and racial discrimination, including related acts of racially motivated violence, xenophobia and intolerance, as well as propaganda activities and organizations that attempt to justify or promote racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance in any form;

3. *Affirms* that racism and racial discrimination, and xenophobia and related intolerance, where they amount to racism and racial discrimination, constitute serious violations of and obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

4. *Stresses* that States and international organizations have a responsibility to ensure that measures taken in the struggle against terrorism do not discriminate in purpose or effect on grounds of race, colour, descent or national or ethnic origin, and urges all States to rescind or refrain from all forms of racial profiling;

5. *Urges* States to adopt effective measures to combat criminal acts motivated by racism, racial discrimination,

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[293] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[294] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[295] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. 1: *Resolutions*.

xenophobia and related intolerance, including measures to ensure that such motivations are considered an aggravating factor for the purposes of sentencing, to prevent those crimes from going unpunished and to ensure the rule of law;

6. *Urges* all States to review and, where necessary, revise their immigration laws, policies and practices so that they are free of racial discrimination and compatible with their obligations under international human rights instruments;

7. *Condemns* the misuse of print, audio-visual and electronic media and new communications technologies, including the Internet, to incite violence motivated by racial hatred, and calls upon States to take all necessary measures to combat this form of racism in accordance with the commitments that they have undertaken under the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[288] in particular paragraph 147 of the Programme of Action, in accordance with existing international and regional standards of freedom of expression and taking all necessary measures to guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression;

8. *Also condemns* political platforms and organizations based on racism, xenophobia or doctrines of racial superiority and related discrimination, as well as legislation and practices based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance as incompatible with democracy and transparent and accountable governance;

9. *Encourages* all States to include in their educational curricula and social programmes at all levels, as appropriate, knowledge of and tolerance and respect for foreign cultures, peoples and countries;

10. *Urges* States to mainstream a gender perspective in the design and development of prevention, education and protection measures aimed at the eradication of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance at all levels, to ensure that they effectively target the distinct situations of women and men;

II

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

11. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the international human rights instruments that combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular to accede to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination[293] as a matter of urgency, with a view to achieving universal ratification by 2005, and to consider making the declaration envisaged under article 14 thereof, to comply with their reporting obligations, to publish and act upon the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, to withdraw reservations contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention and to consider withdrawing other reservations;

12. *Invites* States parties to ratify the amendment to article 8 of the Convention, on the financing of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, and calls for adequate additional resources from the United Nations regular budget to enable the Committee to discharge its mandate fully;

13. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to intensify their efforts to implement the obligations that they have accepted under article 4 of the Convention, with due regard to the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[292] and article 5 of the Convention;

14. *Notes* that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, in its general recommendation XV (42) of 17 March 1993 concerning article 4 of the Convention,[296] holds that the prohibition of the dissemination of ideas based on racial superiority or racial hatred is compatible with the right to freedom of opinion and expression as outlined in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in article 5 of the Convention;

15. *Welcomes* general recommendation XXVIII adopted on 19 March 2002 by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[297] in which the Committee emphasized the importance of follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance and recommended measures to strengthen the implementation of the Convention as well as the functioning of the Committee;

III

Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

16. *Emphasizes* that the basic responsibility for effectively combating racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance lies with States, and to this end stresses that States have the primary responsibility to ensure full and effective implementation of all commitments and recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[288]

17. *Also emphasizes*, in that context, the fundamental and complementary role of the national human rights institutions, regional bodies or centres and civil society, working jointly with States towards the achievement of the objectives of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

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[296] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/48/18), chap. VIII, sect. B.

[297] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/57/18), chap. XI.

18. *Calls upon* States to elaborate action plans, in consultation with national human rights institutions, other institutions created by law to combat racism, and civil society, and to provide the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with such action plans and other relevant materials on measures taken to implement the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

19. *Calls upon* all States to formulate and implement without delay at the national, regional and international levels policies and plans of action to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, including their gender-based manifestations;

20. *Urges* States to support the activities of regional bodies or centres that combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance where they exist in their region, and recommends the establishment of such bodies or centres in all regions where they do not exist;

21. *Recognizes* the fundamental role of civil society in the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, in particular in assisting States to develop regulations and strategies, in taking measures and action against such forms of discrimination and through follow-up implementation;

22. *Emphasizes* that, in accordance with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, States have a shared responsibility, at the international level and within the framework of the United Nations system, to determine modalities for the overall review of the implementation of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

23. *Decides* that the General Assembly, through its role in policy formulation, the Economic and Social Council, through its role in overall guidance and coordination, in accordance with their respective roles under the Charter of the United Nations and Assembly resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996, and the Commission on Human Rights shall constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

24. *Stresses and reaffirms* its role as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters related to the economic, social and related fields, in accordance with Chapter IX of the Charter, including in the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the goals and targets set at all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions;

25. *Acknowledges* that the outcome of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance is on an equal footing with those of all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions in the human rights and social fields;

26. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council shall oversee system-wide coordination of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

27. *Also decides* that the Commission on Human Rights, as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, shall have a central role in the monitoring of the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action within the United Nations system and in advising the Council thereon;

28. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in accordance with the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, to appoint five independent eminent experts, one from each region, from among candidates proposed by the Chairperson of the Commission on Human Rights, after consultation with the regional groups, to follow up the implementation of the provisions of the Declaration and Programme of Action;

29. *Welcomes* the establishment within the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of an Anti-Discrimination Unit to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to promote equality and non-discrimination;

30. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner, in particular the Anti-Discrimination Unit, Member States and all other relevant stakeholders to work closely together regarding activities aimed at the effective implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

31. *Stresses* the need to ensure adequate financial and human resources, including through the regular budget of the United Nations, for the Office of the High Commissioner to carry out its responsibilities efficiently in the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;

32. *Invites* all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to become involved in the follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, and invites specialized agencies and related organizations of the United Nations system to strengthen and adjust, within their respective mandates, their activities, programmes and medium-term strategies to take into account the follow-up to the Conference;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Human Rights and other relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations system to continue the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, taking into account the relevant recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, and to reflect progress in this regard in their reports;

34. *Invites* all human rights treaty-monitoring bodies and all mechanisms and subsidiary bodies of the Commission

on Human Rights to consider the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in the discharge of their respective mandates;

35. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue and expand the appointment and designation of goodwill ambassadors in all countries of the world in order, inter alia, to promote respect for human rights and a culture of tolerance and to increase the level of awareness about the scourge of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

36. *Reconfirms* the views of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna in 1993, on the urgency of eliminating denials and violations of human rights;

37. *Takes note* of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/68 of 25 April 2002[298] and Economic and Social Council decision 2002/270 of 25 July 2002;

38. *Decides* to proclaim 2004 the International Year to Commemorate the Struggle against Slavery and its Abolition;

IV

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination and coordination of activities

39. *Recalls* its proclamation, in resolution 48/91 of 20 December 1993, of the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, which began in 1993 and will end in 2003;

40. *Notes with great concern* that, despite the many efforts of the international community, the objectives of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination have largely not been achieved, welcomes, therefore, the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,[288] and calls for its full implementation at the national, regional and international levels;

41. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, through the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, an analytical report on the extent of implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade, to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session;

V

Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and follow-up to his visits

42. *Takes note* of the report of the former Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,[291] and expresses its full appreciation for his work;

43. *Expresses its full support and appreciation* for the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and encourages its continuation;

44. *Reiterates its call* to all Member States, intergovernmental organizations, relevant organizations of the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur;

45. *Recognizes with deep concern* the increase in anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in various parts of the world, as well as the emergence of racial and violent movements based on racism and discriminatory ideas directed against Jewish, Muslim and Arab communities;

46. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue his exchange of views with Member States and relevant mechanisms and treaty bodies within the United Nations system in order to further enhance their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

47. *Also requests* the Special Rapporteur to collect information from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that becomes available to him, to follow up on communications and country visits, and to seek the views and comments of Governments and reflect them, as appropriate, in his reports;

48. *Calls upon* States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

49. *Urges* Member States to consider implementing the recommendations contained in the reports of the Special Rapporteur;

50. *Encourages* closer collaboration between the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in particular the newly formed Anti-Discrimination Unit;

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[298] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

51. *Urges* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide States, at their request, with advisory services and technical assistance to enable them to implement fully the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur;

52. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary human and financial assistance to carry out his mandate efficiently, effectively and expeditiously and to enable him to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

53. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

54. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this matter at its fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action".

RESOLUTION 57/196

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/555, para. 19),[299] by a recorded vote of 124 to 21, with 34 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, New Zealand, Palau, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

57/196. Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/232 of 24 December 2001, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/5 of 12 April 2002,[300]

Recalling also all of its relevant resolutions, in which, inter alia, it condemned any State that permitted or tolerated the recruitment, financing, training, assembly, transit and use of mercenaries with the objective of overthrowing the Governments of States Members of the United Nations, especially those of developing countries, or of fighting against national liberation movements, and recalling further the relevant resolutions and international instruments adopted by the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and the Organization of African Unity, inter alia, the Organization of African Unity Convention for the elimination of mercenarism in Africa,[301]

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations concerning the strict observance of the principles of sovereign equality, political independence, the territorial integrity of States, the self-determination of peoples, the non-use of force or of the threat of use of force in international relations and non-interference in affairs within the domestic jurisdiction of States,

Reaffirming also that, by virtue of the principle of self-determination, all peoples have the right freely to determine their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter,

Reaffirming further the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[302]

Alarmed and concerned at the danger that the activities of mercenaries constitute to peace and security in developing countries, in particular in Africa and in small States,

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[299] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Russian Federation, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Yemen.

[300] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[301] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1490, No. 25573.

[302] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

Deeply concerned at the loss of life, the substantial damage to property and the negative effects on the policy and economies of affected countries resulting from criminal mercenary activities,

Convinced that, notwithstanding the way in which they are used or the form that they take to acquire some semblance of legitimacy, mercenaries or mercenary-related activities are a threat to peace, security and the self-determination of peoples and an obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights by peoples,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination;[303]

2. *Reaffirms* that the use of mercenaries and their recruitment, financing and training are causes for grave concern to all States and violate the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Recognizes* that armed conflict, terrorism, arms trafficking and covert operations by third Powers, inter alia, encourage the demand for mercenaries on the global market;

4. *Urges* all States to take the necessary steps and to exercise the utmost vigilance against the menace posed by the activities of mercenaries and to take legislative measures to ensure that their territories and other territories under their control, as well as their nationals, are not used for the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries for the planning of activities designed to impede the right of peoples to self-determination, to destabilize or overthrow the Government of any State or to dismember or impair, totally or in part, the territorial integrity or political unity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in compliance with the right of peoples to self-determination;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the entry into force of the International Convention against the Recruitment, Use, Financing and Training of Mercenaries,[304] and calls upon all States that have not yet done so to consider taking the necessary action to sign, accede to or ratify it, as a matter of priority;

6. *Welcomes* the cooperation extended by those countries that have received visits from the Special Rapporteur;

7. *Welcomes also* the adoption by some States of national legislation that restricts the recruitment, assembly, financing, training and transit of mercenaries;

8. *Calls upon* States to investigate the possibility of mercenary involvement whenever and wherever criminal acts of a terrorist nature occur and to bring to trial those found responsible or to consider their extradition, if so requested, in accordance with domestic law and applicable bilateral or international treaties;

9. *Welcomes* the convening by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of the second meeting of experts on the question of traditional and new forms of mercenary activities as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination, and recognizes its contribution to the process of formulating a clearer legal definition of mercenaries that would make more efficient the prevention and punishment of mercenary activities;

10. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue working to propose a clearer definition of mercenaries, including clear nationality criteria, based on his findings, the proposals of States and the outcomes of the meetings of experts, and to make suggestions on the procedure to be followed for international adoption of a new definition;

11. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, as a matter of priority, to publicize the adverse effects of the activities of mercenaries on the right of peoples to self-determination and, when requested and where necessary, to render advisory services to States that are affected by the activities of mercenaries;

12. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue taking into account in the discharge of his mandate the fact that mercenary activities continue to occur in many parts of the world and are taking on new forms, manifestations and modalities;

13. *Urges* all States to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the Special Rapporteur with all the necessary assistance and support for the fulfilment of his mandate, both professional and financial, including through the promotion of cooperation between the Special Rapporteur and other components of the United Nations system that deal with countering mercenary-related activities;

15. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the present resolution and to report, with specific recommendations, to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session his findings on the use of mercenaries to undermine the right of peoples to self-determination;

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[303] See A/57/178.

[304] Resolution 44/34, annex.

16. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session the question of the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

RESOLUTION 57/197

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/555, para. 19)[305]

57/197. Universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance, for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights, of the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and embodied in the International Covenants on Human Rights,[306] as well as in the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples contained in General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960,

Welcoming the progressive exercise of the right to self-determination by peoples under colonial, foreign or alien occupation and their emergence into sovereign statehood and independence,

Deeply concerned at the continuation of acts or threats of foreign military intervention and occupation that are threatening to suppress, or have already suppressed, the right to self-determination of peoples and nations,

Expressing grave concern that, as a consequence of the persistence of such actions, millions of people have been and are being uprooted from their homes as refugees and displaced persons, and emphasizing the urgent need for concerted international action to alleviate their condition,

Recalling the relevant resolutions regarding the violation of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights as a result of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, adopted by the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-eighth[307] and previous sessions,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, including resolution 56/141 of 19 December 2001,

Reaffirming also its resolution 55/2 of 8 September 2000, containing the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which, inter alia, upholds the right to self-determination of peoples under colonial domination and foreign occupation,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the right of peoples to self-determination,[308]

1. *Reaffirms* that the universal realization of the right of all peoples, including those under colonial, foreign and alien domination, to self-determination is a fundamental condition for the effective guarantee and observance of human rights and for the preservation and promotion of such rights;

2. *Declares its firm opposition* to acts of foreign military intervention, aggression and occupation, since these have resulted in the suppression of the right of peoples to self-determination and other human rights in certain parts of the world;

3. *Calls upon* those States responsible to cease immediately their military intervention in and occupation of foreign countries and territories and all acts of repression, discrimination, exploitation and maltreatment, in particular the brutal and inhuman methods reportedly employed for the execution of those acts against the peoples concerned;

4. *Deplores* the plight of millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been uprooted as a result of the aforementioned acts, and reaffirms their right to return to their homes voluntarily in safety and honour;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to give special attention to the violation of human rights, especially the right to self-determination, resulting from foreign military intervention, aggression or occupation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Right of peoples to self-determination".

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[305] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Suriname, Thailand, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[306] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[307] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[308] A/57/312.

RESOLUTION 57/198

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/555, para. 19),[309] by a recorded vote of 172 to 4, with 3 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Micronesia (Federated States of), Tonga, Vanuatu

57/198. The right of the Palestinian people to self-determination

The General Assembly,

Aware that the development of friendly relations among nations, based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, is among the purposes and principles of the United Nations, as defined in the Charter,

Recalling the International Covenants on Human Rights,[310] the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[311] the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples[312] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[313]

Recalling also the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[314]

Recalling further the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[315]

Expressing the urgent need for the resumption of negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis and for the speedy achievement of a final settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Affirming the right of all States in the region to live in peace within secure and internationally recognized borders,

1. *Reaffirms* the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, including the right to their independent State of Palestine;

2. *Urges* all States and the specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to continue to support and assist the Palestinian people in the early realization of their right to self-determination.

RESOLUTION 57/199

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.1, para. 31),[316] by a recorded vote of 127 to 4, with 42 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and

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[309] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Monaco, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Palestine.

[310] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[311] Resolution 217 A (III).

[312] Resolution 1514 (XV).

[313] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[314] See resolution 50/6.

[315] See resolution 55/2.

[316] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Marshall Islands, Nigeria, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Algeria, Australia, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, China, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Grenada, Guyana, India, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Myanmar, Nepal, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Somalia, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam

57/199. Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[317] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[318] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[319] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and all its subsequent relevant resolutions,

Reaffirming that freedom from torture is a right that must be protected under all circumstances,

Considering that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should first and foremost be concentrated on prevention and called for the early adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,

Welcoming the adoption of the draft optional protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2002/33 of 22 April 2002[320] and by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2002/27 of 24 July 2002, in which the Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the draft optional protocol,

1. *Adopts* the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment contained in the annex to the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to open it for signature, ratification and accession at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 January 2003;

2. *Calls upon* all States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment to sign and ratify or accede to the Optional Protocol.

Annex

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Preamble

The States Parties to the present Protocol,

Reaffirming that torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment are prohibited and constitute serious violations of human rights,

Convinced that further measures are necessary to achieve the purposes of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (hereinafter referred to as the Convention) and to strengthen the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,

Recalling that articles 2 and 16 of the Convention oblige each State Party to take effective measures to prevent acts of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in any territory under its jurisdiction,

Recognizing that States have the primary responsibility for implementing those articles, that strengthening the protection of people deprived of their liberty and the full respect for their human rights is a common responsibility shared by all and that international implementing bodies complement and strengthen national measures,

Recalling that the effective prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment requires education and a combination of various legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures,

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[317] Resolution 217 A (III).

[318] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[319] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

[320] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Recalling also that the World Conference on Human Rights firmly declared that efforts to eradicate torture should first and foremost be concentrated on prevention and called for the adoption of an optional protocol to the Convention, intended to establish a preventive system of regular visits to places of detention,

Convinced that the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment can be strengthened by non-judicial means of a preventive nature, based on regular visits to places of detention,

Have agreed as follows:

Part I
General principles

Article 1

The objective of the present Protocol is to establish a system of regular visits undertaken by independent international and national bodies to places where people are deprived of their liberty, in order to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 2

1. A Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment of the Committee against Torture (hereinafter referred to as the Subcommittee on Prevention) shall be established and shall carry out the functions laid down in the present Protocol.

2. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall carry out its work within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations and shall be guided by the purposes and principles thereof, as well as the norms of the United Nations concerning the treatment of people deprived of their liberty.

3. Equally, the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be guided by the principles of confidentiality, impartiality, non-selectivity, universality and objectivity.

4. The Subcommittee on Prevention and the States Parties shall cooperate in the implementation of the present Protocol.

Article 3

Each State Party shall set up, designate or maintain at the domestic level one or several visiting bodies for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (hereinafter referred to as the national preventive mechanism).

Article 4

1. Each State Party shall allow visits, in accordance with the present Protocol, by the mechanisms referred to in articles 2 and 3 to any place under its jurisdiction and control where persons are or may be deprived of their liberty, either by virtue of an order given by a public authority or at its instigation or with its consent or acquiescence (hereinafter referred to as places of detention). These visits shall be undertaken with a view to strengthening, if necessary, the protection of these persons against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

2. For the purposes of the present Protocol, deprivation of liberty means any form of detention or imprisonment or the placement of a person in a public or private custodial setting which that person is not permitted to leave at will by order of any judicial, administrative or other authority.

Part II
Subcommittee on Prevention

Article 5

1. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall consist of ten members. After the fiftieth ratification of or accession to the present Protocol, the number of the members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall increase to twenty-five.

2. The members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be chosen from among persons of high moral character, having proven professional experience in the field of the administration of justice, in particular criminal law, prison or police administration, or in the various fields relevant to the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty.

3. In the composition of the Subcommittee on Prevention due consideration shall be given to equitable geographic distribution and to the representation of different forms of civilization and legal systems of the States Parties.

4. In this composition consideration shall also be given to balanced gender representation on the basis of the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

5. No two members of the Subcommittee on Prevention may be nationals of the same State.

6. The members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall serve in their individual capacity, shall be independent and impartial and shall be available to serve the Subcommittee on Prevention efficiently.

Article 6

1. Each State Party may nominate, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the present article, up to two candidates possessing the qualifications and meeting the requirements set out in article 5, and in doing so shall provide detailed information on the qualifications of the nominees.

2. (*a*) The nominees shall have the nationality of a State Party to the present Protocol;

(*b*) At least one of the two candidates shall have the nationality of the nominating State Party;

(*c*) No more than two nationals of a State Party shall be nominated;

(*d*) Before a State Party nominates a national of another State Party, it shall seek and obtain the consent of that State Party.

3. At least five months before the date of the meeting of the States Parties during which the elections will be held, the Secretary-General of the United Nations shall address a letter to the States Parties inviting them to submit their nominations within three months. The Secretary-General shall submit a list, in alphabetical order, of all persons thus nominated, indicating the States Parties that have nominated them.

Article 7

1. The members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be elected in the following manner:

(*a*) Primary consideration shall be given to the fulfilment of the requirements and criteria of article 5 of the present Protocol;

(*b*) The initial election shall be held no later than six months after the entry into force of the present Protocol;

(*c*) The States Parties shall elect the members of the Subcommittee on Prevention by secret ballot;

(*d*) Elections of the members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be held at biennial meetings of the States Parties convened by the Secretary-General of the United Nations. At those meetings, for which two thirds of the States Parties shall constitute a quorum, the persons elected to the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be those who obtain the largest number of votes and an absolute majority of the votes of the representatives of the States Parties present and voting.

2. If during the election process two nationals of a State Party have become eligible to serve as members of the Subcommittee on Prevention, the candidate receiving the higher number of votes shall serve as the member of the Subcommittee on Prevention. Where nationals have received the same number of votes, the following procedure applies:

(*a*) Where only one has been nominated by the State Party of which he or she is a national, that national shall serve as the member of the Subcommittee on Prevention;

(*b*) Where both candidates have been nominated by the State Party of which they are nationals, a separate vote by secret ballot shall be held to determine which national shall become the member;

(*c*) Where neither candidate has been nominated by the State Party of which he or she is a national, a separate vote by secret ballot shall be held to determine which candidate shall be the member.

Article 8

If a member of the Subcommittee on Prevention dies or resigns, or for any cause can no longer perform his or her duties, the State Party that nominated the member shall nominate another eligible person possessing the qualifications and meeting the requirements set out in article 5, taking into account the need for a proper balance among the various fields of competence, to serve until the next meeting of the States Parties, subject to the approval of the majority of the States Parties. The approval shall be considered given unless half or more of the States Parties respond negatively within six weeks after having been informed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the proposed appointment.

Article 9

The members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be elected for a term of four years. They shall be eligible for re-election once if renominated. The term of half the members elected at the first election shall expire at the end of two years; immediately after the first election the names of those members shall be chosen by lot by the Chairman of the meeting referred to in article 7, paragraph 1 (*d*).

Article 10

1. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall elect its officers for a term of two years. They may be re-elected.

2. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall establish its own rules of procedure. These rules shall provide, inter alia, that:

(*a*) Half the members plus one shall constitute a quorum;

(*b*) Decisions of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be made by a majority vote of the members present;

(*c*) The Subcommittee on Prevention shall meet in camera.

3. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall convene the initial meeting of the Subcommittee on Prevention. After its initial meeting, the Subcommittee on Prevention shall meet at such times as shall be provided by its rules of procedure. The Subcommittee on Prevention and the Committee against Torture shall hold their sessions simultaneously at least once a year.

Part III
Mandate of the Subcommittee on Prevention

Article 11

The Subcommittee on Prevention shall:

(*a*) Visit the places referred to in article 4 and make recommendations to States Parties concerning the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) In regard to the national preventive mechanisms:

(i) Advise and assist States Parties, when necessary, in their establishment;

(ii) Maintain direct, and if necessary confidential, contact with the national preventive mechanisms and offer them training and technical assistance with a view to strengthening their capacities;

(iii) Advise and assist them in the evaluation of the needs and the means necessary to strengthen the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(iv) Make recommendations and observations to the States Parties with a view to strengthening the capacity and the mandate of the national preventive mechanisms for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*c*) Cooperate, for the prevention of torture in general, with the relevant United Nations organs and mechanisms as well as with the international, regional and national institutions or organizations working towards the strengthening of the protection of all persons against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 12

In order to enable the Subcommittee on Prevention to comply with its mandate as laid down in article 11, the States Parties undertake:

(*a*) To receive the Subcommittee on Prevention in their territory and grant it access to the places of detention as defined in article 4 of the present Protocol;

(*b*) To provide all relevant information the Subcommittee on Prevention may request to evaluate the needs and measures that should be adopted to strengthen the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*c*) To encourage and facilitate contacts between the Subcommittee on Prevention and the national preventive mechanisms;

(*d*) To examine the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Prevention and enter into dialogue with it on possible implementation measures.

Article 13

1. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall establish, at first by lot, a programme of regular visits to the States Parties in order to fulfil its mandate as established in article 11.

2. After consultations, the Subcommittee on Prevention shall notify the States Parties of its programme in order that they may, without delay, make the necessary practical arrangements for the visits to be conducted.

3. The visits shall be conducted by at least two members of the Subcommittee on Prevention. These members may be accompanied, if needed, by experts of demonstrated professional experience and knowledge in the fields covered by the present Protocol who shall be selected from a roster of experts prepared on the basis of proposals made by the States Parties, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Centre for International Crime Prevention. In preparing the roster, the States Parties concerned shall propose no more than five national experts. The State Party concerned may oppose the inclusion of a specific expert in the visit, whereupon the Subcommittee on Prevention shall propose another expert.

4. If the Subcommittee on Prevention considers it appropriate, it may propose a short follow-up visit after a regular visit.

Article 14

1. In order to enable the Subcommittee on Prevention to fulfil its mandate, the States Parties to the present Protocol undertake to grant it:

(*a*) Unrestricted access to all information concerning the number of persons deprived of their liberty in places of detention as defined in article 4, as well as the number of places and their location;

(*b*) Unrestricted access to all information referring to the treatment of those persons as well as their conditions of detention;

(*c*) Subject to paragraph 2 below, unrestricted access to all places of detention and their installations and facilities;

(*d*) The opportunity to have private interviews with the persons deprived of their liberty without witnesses, either personally or with a translator if deemed necessary, as well as with any other person who the Subcommittee on Prevention believes may supply relevant information;

(*e*) The liberty to choose the places it wants to visit and the persons it wants to interview.

2. Objection to a visit to a particular place of detention may be made only on urgent and compelling grounds of national defence, public safety, natural disaster or serious disorder in the place to be visited that temporarily prevent the carrying out of

such a visit. The existence of a declared state of emergency as such shall not be invoked by a State Party as a reason to object to a visit.

Article 15

No authority or official shall order, apply, permit or tolerate any sanction against any person or organization for having communicated to the Subcommittee on Prevention or to its delegates any information, whether true or false, and no such person or organization shall be otherwise prejudiced in any way.

Article 16

1. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall communicate its recommendations and observations confidentially to the State Party and, if relevant, to the national preventive mechanism.

2. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall publish its report, together with any comments of the State Party concerned, whenever requested to do so by that State Party. If the State Party makes part of the report public, the Subcommittee on Prevention may publish the report in whole or in part. However, no personal data shall be published without the express consent of the person concerned.

3. The Subcommittee on Prevention shall present a public annual report on its activities to the Committee against Torture.

4. If the State Party refuses to cooperate with the Subcommittee on Prevention according to articles 12 and 14, or to take steps to improve the situation in the light of the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Prevention, the Committee against Torture may, at the request of the Subcommittee on Prevention, decide, by a majority of its members, after the State Party has had an opportunity to make its views known, to make a public statement on the matter or to publish the report of the Subcommittee on Prevention.

Part IV
National preventive mechanisms

Article 17

Each State Party shall maintain, designate or establish, at the latest one year after the entry into force of the present Protocol or of its ratification or accession, one or several independent national preventive mechanisms for the prevention of torture at the domestic level. Mechanisms established by decentralized units may be designated as national preventive mechanisms for the purposes of the present Protocol if they are in conformity with its provisions.

Article 18

1. The States Parties shall guarantee the functional independence of the national preventive mechanisms as well as the independence of their personnel.

2. The States Parties shall take the necessary measures to ensure that the experts of the national preventive mechanism have the required capabilities and professional knowledge. They shall strive for a gender balance and the adequate representation of ethnic and minority groups in the country.

3. The States Parties undertake to make available the necessary resources for the functioning of the national preventive mechanisms.

4. When establishing national preventive mechanisms, States Parties shall give due consideration to the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Article 19

The national preventive mechanisms shall be granted at a minimum the power:

(*a*) To regularly examine the treatment of the persons deprived of their liberty in places of detention as defined in article 4, with a view to strengthening, if necessary, their protection against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(*b*) To make recommendations to the relevant authorities with the aim of improving the treatment and the conditions of the persons deprived of their liberty and to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, taking into consideration the relevant norms of the United Nations;

(*c*) To submit proposals and observations concerning existing or draft legislation.

Article 20

In order to enable the national preventive mechanisms to fulfil their mandate, the States Parties to the present Protocol undertake to grant them:

(*a*) Access to all information concerning the number of persons deprived of their liberty in places of detention as defined in article 4, as well as the number of places and their location;

(*b*) Access to all information referring to the treatment of those persons as well as their conditions of detention;

(*c*) Access to all places of detention and their installations and facilities;

(*d*) The opportunity to have private interviews with the persons deprived of their liberty without witnesses, either personally or with a translator if deemed necessary, as well as with any other person who the national preventive mechanism believes may supply relevant information;

(*e*) The liberty to choose the places they want to visit and the persons they want to interview;

(*f*) The right to have contacts with the Subcommittee on Prevention, to send it information and to meet with it.

Article 21

1. No authority or official shall order, apply, permit or tolerate any sanction against any person or organization for having communicated to the national preventive mechanism any information, whether true or false, and no such person or organization shall be otherwise prejudiced in any way.

2. Confidential information collected by the national preventive mechanism shall be privileged. No personal data shall be published without the express consent of the person concerned.

Article 22

The competent authorities of the State Party concerned shall examine the recommendations of the national preventive mechanism and enter into a dialogue with it on possible implementation measures.

Article 23

The States Parties to the present Protocol undertake to publish and disseminate the annual reports of the national preventive mechanisms.

Part V
Declaration

Article 24

1. Upon ratification, States Parties may make a declaration postponing the implementation of their obligations under either part III or part IV of the present Protocol.

2. This postponement shall be valid for a maximum of three years. After due representations made by the State Party and after consultation with the Subcommittee on Prevention, the Committee against Torture may extend that period for an additional two years.

Part VI
Financial provisions

Article 25

1. The expenditure incurred by the Subcommittee on Prevention in the implementation of the present Protocol shall be borne by the United Nations.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall provide the necessary staff and facilities for the effective performance of the functions of the Subcommittee on Prevention under the present Protocol.

Article 26

1. A Special Fund shall be set up in accordance with the relevant procedures of the General Assembly, to be administered in accordance with the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations, to help finance the implementation of the recommendations made by the Subcommittee on Prevention after a visit to a State Party, as well as education programmes of the national preventive mechanisms.

2. The Special Fund may be financed through voluntary contributions made by Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other private or public entities.

Part VII
Final provisions

Article 27

1. The present Protocol is open for signature by any State that has signed the Convention.

2. The present Protocol is subject to ratification by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

3. The present Protocol shall be open to accession by any State that has ratified or acceded to the Convention.

4. Accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

5. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States that have signed the present Protocol or acceded to it of the deposit of each instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 28

1. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession.

2. For each State ratifying the present Protocol or acceding to it after the deposit with the Secretary-General of the United Nations of the twentieth instrument of ratification or accession, the present Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the date of deposit of its own instrument of ratification or accession.

Article 29

The provisions of the present Protocol shall extend to all parts of federal States without any limitations or exceptions.

Article 30

No reservations shall be made to the present Protocol.

Article 31

The provisions of the present Protocol shall not affect the obligations of States Parties under any regional convention instituting a system of visits to places of detention. The Subcommittee on Prevention and the bodies established under such regional conventions are encouraged to consult and cooperate with a view to avoiding duplication and promoting effectively the objectives of the present Protocol.

Article 32

The provisions of the present Protocol shall not affect the obligations of States Parties to the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 and the Additional Protocols thereto of 8 June 1977, nor the opportunity available to any State Party to authorize the International Committee of the Red Cross to visit places of detention in situations not covered by international humanitarian law.

Article 33

1. Any State Party may denounce the present Protocol at any time by written notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall thereafter inform the other States Parties to the present Protocol and the Convention. Denunciation shall take effect one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Secretary-General.

2. Such a denunciation shall not have the effect of releasing the State Party from its obligations under the present Protocol in regard to any act or situation that may occur prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective, or to the actions that the Subcommittee on Prevention has decided or may decide to take with respect to the State Party concerned, nor shall denunciation prejudice in any way the continued consideration of any matter already under consideration by the Subcommittee on Prevention prior to the date on which the denunciation becomes effective.

3. Following the date on which the denunciation of the State Party becomes effective, the Subcommittee on Prevention shall not commence consideration of any new matter regarding that State.

Article 34

1. Any State Party to the present Protocol may propose an amendment and file it with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. The Secretary-General shall thereupon communicate the proposed amendment to the States Parties to the present Protocol with a request that they notify him whether they favour a conference of States Parties for the purpose of considering and voting upon the proposal. In the event that within four months from the date of such communication at least one third of the States Parties favour such a conference, the Secretary-General shall convene the conference under the auspices of the United Nations. Any amendment adopted by a majority of two thirds of the States Parties present and voting at the conference shall be submitted by the Secretary-General of the United Nations to all States Parties for acceptance.

2. An amendment adopted in accordance with paragraph 1 of the present article shall come into force when it has been accepted by a two-thirds majority of the States Parties to the present Protocol in accordance with their respective constitutional processes.

3. When amendments come into force, they shall be binding on those States Parties that have accepted them, other States Parties still being bound by the provisions of the present Protocol and any earlier amendment that they have accepted.

Article 35

Members of the Subcommittee on Prevention and of the national preventive mechanisms shall be accorded such privileges and immunities as are necessary for the independent exercise of their functions. Members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall be accorded the privileges and immunities specified in section 22 of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations of 13 February 1946, subject to the provisions of section 23 of that Convention.

Article 36

When visiting a State Party, the members of the Subcommittee on Prevention shall, without prejudice to the provisions and purposes of the present Protocol and such privileges and immunities as they may enjoy:

(*a*) Respect the laws and regulations of the visited State;

(*b*) Refrain from any action or activity incompatible with the impartial and international nature of their duties.

Article 37

1. The present Protocol, of which the Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall transmit certified copies of the present Protocol to all States.

RESOLUTION 57/200

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.1, para. 31)[321]

57/200. Torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

The General Assembly,

Recalling article 5 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[322] article 7 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[323] the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Being Subjected to Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment[324] and its resolution 39/46 of 10 December 1984, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,

Recalling also that freedom from torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is a non-derogable right that must be protected under all circumstances, including in times of internal or international disturbance or armed conflict, and that the prohibition of torture is explicitly affirmed in all relevant international instruments,

Recalling further all previous resolutions or decisions on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on Human Rights, in particular Assembly resolution 56/143 of 19 December 2001 and Commission resolution 2002/38 of 22 April 2002,[325]

Recalling the recommendation contained in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993[326] that high priority should be given to providing the necessary resources to assist victims of torture and effective remedies for their physical, psychological and social rehabilitation, inter alia, through additional contributions to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture,

Noting with satisfaction the existence of a considerable international network of centres for the rehabilitation of victims of torture, which plays an important role in providing assistance to victims of torture, and the collaboration of the Fund with the centres,

Commending the persistent efforts by non-governmental organizations to combat torture and to alleviate the suffering of victims of torture,

Mindful of its proclamation, in its resolution 52/149 of 12 December 1997, of 26 June as the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture,

1. *Condemns* all forms of torture, including through intimidation, as described in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[327]

2. *Urges* all Governments to promote the full implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[326] stresses in particular that all allegations of torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment should be promptly and impartially examined by the competent national authority, that those who encourage, order, tolerate or perpetrate acts of torture must be held responsible and severely punished, including the officials in charge of the place of detention where the prohibited act is found to have been committed, and that national legal systems should ensure that the victims of such acts obtain redress, are awarded fair and adequate compensation and receive appropriate social and medical rehabilitation, and encourages the development of rehabilitation centres for victims of torture;

3. *Takes note* of the Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment annexed to its resolution 55/89 of 4 December 2000 as a useful tool in efforts to combat torture;

4. *Urges* Governments to take effective measures to provide redress and to prevent torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including their gender-based manifestations;

5. *Stresses* that, under article 4 of the Convention, torture must be made an offence under domestic criminal law, and emphasizes that acts of torture are serious violations of

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[321] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

[322] Resolution 217 A (III).

[323] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[324] Resolution 3452 (XXX), annex.

[325] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[326] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[327] Resolution 39/46, annex.

international humanitarian law and that the perpetrators are liable to prosecution and punishment;

6. *Notes with appreciation* that one hundred and thirty-one States have become parties to the Convention, and urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention as a matter of priority;

7. *Invites* all States ratifying or acceding to the Convention and those States that are parties to the Convention and have not yet done so to consider joining the States parties that have already made the declarations provided for in articles 21 and 22 of the Convention and to consider the possibility of withdrawing their reservations to article 20;

8. *Urges* all States parties to the Convention to notify the Secretary-General of their acceptance of the amendments to articles 17 and 18 of the Convention as soon as possible;

9. *Urges* States parties to comply strictly with their obligations under the Convention, including, in view of the high number of reports not submitted, their obligation to submit reports in accordance with article 19 of the Convention, and invites States parties to incorporate a gender perspective and information concerning children and juveniles when submitting reports to the Committee against Torture;

10. *Emphasizes* the obligation of States parties under article 10 of the Convention to ensure education and training for personnel who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment;

11. *Stresses*, in this context, that States must not punish personnel referred to in paragraph 10 above for not obeying orders to commit or conceal acts amounting to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

12. *Calls upon* all Governments to take appropriate effective legislative, administrative, judicial or other measures to prevent and prohibit the production, trade, export and use of equipment that is specifically designed to inflict torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment;

13. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee against Torture and the report of the Committee,[328] submitted in accordance with article 24 of the Convention;

14. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in conformity with his mandate established in General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to continue to provide, at the request of Governments, advisory services for the preparation of national reports to the Committee and for the prevention of torture, as well as technical assistance in the development, production and distribution of teaching material for this purpose;

15. *Urges* States parties to take fully into account the conclusions and recommendations made by the Committee after its consideration of their reports;

16. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture,[329] describing the overall trends and developments with regard to his mandate, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to include in his recommendations proposals on the prevention and investigation of torture;

17. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to examine questions of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment directed against women, and conditions conducive to such torture, and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention and redress of gender-specific forms of torture, including rape or any other form of sexual violence, and to exchange views with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences, with the aim of enhancing further their effectiveness and mutual cooperation;

18. *Also invites* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider questions relating to the torture of children and conditions conducive to such torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and to make appropriate recommendations for the prevention of such torture;

19. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his task, to supply all necessary information requested by the Special Rapporteur, to respond appropriately and expeditiously to his urgent appeals and to give serious consideration to requests by the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, and urges them to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Special Rapporteur in following up his recommendations;

20. *Reiterates* the need for the Special Rapporteur to be able to respond effectively, in particular to urgent appeals, to credible and reliable information that comes before him, and invites the Special Rapporteur to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, in particular Member States;

21. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to consider including in his report information on the follow-up by Governments to his recommendations, visits and communications, including progress made and problems encountered;

22. *Stresses* the need for the continued regular exchange of views among the Committee, the Special Rapporteur and other relevant United Nations mechanisms and bodies, as well as for the pursuance of cooperation with relevant United Nations programmes, notably the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, with a view to

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[328] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 44* (A/57/44).

[329] See A/57/173.

enhancing further their effectiveness and cooperation on issues relating to torture, inter alia, by improving their coordination;

23. *Expresses its gratitude and appreciation* to the Governments, organizations and individuals that have already contributed to the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;[330]

24. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and appeals to all Governments and organizations to contribute annually to the Fund, preferably by 1 March before the annual meeting of the Board, if possible with a substantial increase in the level of contributions, so that consideration may be given to the ever-increasing demand for assistance;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to all Governments the appeals of the General Assembly for contributions to the Fund and to continue to include the Fund on an annual basis among the programmes for which funds are pledged at the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to assist the Board of Trustees of the Fund in its appeal for contributions and in its efforts to make better known the existence of the Fund and the financial means currently available to it, as well as in its assessment of the global need for international funding of rehabilitation services for victims of torture and, in this effort, to make use of all existing possibilities, including the preparation, production and dissemination of information materials;

27. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, within the overall budgetary framework of the United Nations, the provision of adequate staff and facilities for the bodies and mechanisms involved in combating torture and assisting victims of torture, commensurate with the strong support expressed by Member States for combating torture and assisting victims of torture;

28. *Invites* donor countries and recipient countries to consider including in their bilateral programmes and projects relating to the training of armed forces, security forces, prison and police personnel and health-care personnel matters relating to the protection of human rights and the prevention of torture, while bearing in mind a gender perspective;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the status of the Convention and a report on the operations of the Fund;

30. *Calls upon* all Governments, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other United Nations bodies and agencies, as well as relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to commemorate, on 26 June, the United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture;

31. *Decides* to consider at its fifty-eighth session the reports of the Secretary-General, including the report on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture, the report of the Committee against Torture and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture.

RESOLUTION 57/201

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.1, para. 31)[331]

57/201. International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

The General Assembly,

Guided by the basic instruments regarding the international protection of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[332] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[333] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[334] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[335] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[336] and reaffirming the obligation of States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Bearing in mind the principles and norms established within the framework of the International Labour Organization and the importance of the work done in connection with migrant workers and members of their families in other specialized agencies and in various organs of the United Nations,

Recalling that, despite the existence of an already established body of principles and norms, there is an urgent need to make further efforts worldwide to improve the situation and to guarantee respect for the human rights and dignity of all migrant workers and members of their families,

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[330] See A/57/268.

[331] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Colombia, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Jordan, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay.

[332] Resolution 217 A (III).

[333] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[334] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[335] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[336] Resolution 44/25, annex.

Conscious of the marked increase in migratory movements that has occurred, especially in certain parts of the world,

Deeply concerned at the grave situation of vulnerability of migrant workers and members of their families,

Considering that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[337] all States are urged to guarantee the protection of the human rights of all migrant workers and members of their families,

Underlining the importance of the creation and promotion of conditions to foster greater harmony and tolerance between migrant workers and the rest of the society of the State in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia directed against migrant workers by individuals or groups in segments of many societies,

Recalling its resolution 45/158 of 18 December 1990, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,

Bearing in mind that, in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, States are invited to consider the possibility of signing and ratifying the Convention at the earliest possible time,

1. *Expresses its deep concern* at the growing manifestations of racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman or degrading treatment directed against migrant workers in various parts of the world;

2. *Welcomes* the signature or ratification of or accession to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families[338] by some States, and takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention;[339]

3. *Again calls upon* all Member States that have not yet ratified the Convention to consider urgently signing and ratifying or acceding to it as a matter of priority, expresses the hope that it will enter into force at an early date, and in particular takes into account the fact that, pursuant to article 87 of the Convention, only one more ratification or accession is needed for it to enter into force;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all necessary provisions for the timely establishment of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families referred to in article 72 of the Convention, as soon as the Convention enters into force, and calls upon States parties to submit their first periodic reports in due time;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide all the facilities and assistance necessary for the promotion of the Convention through the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the programme of advisory services in the field of human rights;

6. *Welcomes* the increasing activities of the global campaign for the entry into force of the Convention, and invites the organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to intensify further their efforts with a view to disseminating information on and promoting understanding of the importance of the Convention;

7. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants in relation to the Convention, and encourages her to persevere in this endeavour;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit an updated report on the status of the Convention to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

9. *Decides* to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of human rights instruments".

RESOLUTION 57/202

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.1, para. 31)[340]

57/202. Effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/90 of 4 December 2000, as well as other relevant resolutions, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/85 of 26 April 2002,[341]

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[337] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[338] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[339] A/57/291.

[340] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United Republic of Tanzania.

[341] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Reaffirming that the full and effective implementation of United Nations human rights instruments is of major importance to the efforts of the Organization, pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[342] to promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that the effective functioning of treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments is indispensable for the full and effective implementation of such instruments,

Reaffirming the contribution of the human rights treaty bodies, within their mandates, to the prevention of violations of human rights, in the context of their consideration of reports submitted pursuant to their respective treaties,

Reiterating its concern about the lack of adequate resources, which impedes the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies,

Recalling that the effectiveness of the treaty bodies in encouraging the realization by States parties of their obligations under United Nations human rights instruments requires constructive dialogue aimed at assisting States parties in identifying solutions to human rights problems, which should be based on the reporting process supplemented by information from all relevant sources, which should be made available to all interested parties,

Recalling also the initiatives taken by a number of human rights treaty bodies to elaborate early warning measures and urgent procedures, within their mandates, with a view to preventing the occurrence or recurrence of serious human rights violations,

Reaffirming its responsibility for the effective functioning of the human rights treaty bodies, and reaffirming also the importance of:

(*a*) Promoting the effective functioning of the periodic reporting by States parties to those instruments,

(*b*) Securing sufficient financial, human and information resources for the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to enable the human rights treaty bodies to carry out their mandates effectively, including in regard to their ability to work in the applicable working languages,

(*c*) Promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness through better coordination of the activities of the United Nations bodies active in the field of human rights, taking into account the need to avoid unnecessary duplication and overlapping of their mandates and tasks,

(*d*) Addressing questions of reporting obligations and financial implications when elaborating any further instruments on human rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[343] and the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their thirteenth and fourteenth meetings,[344] held at Geneva from 18 to 22 June 2001 and from 24 to 26 June 2002 respectively, and also takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports;

2. *Encourages* each human rights treaty body to continue to give careful consideration to the relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their meetings, and, in this context, encourages enhanced cooperation and coordination among the treaty bodies;

3. *Welcomes* the holding of the first inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies, from 26 to 28 June 2002, to discuss issues of common concern, including issues relating to the methods of work of the treaty bodies, and encourages those bodies to continue this practice in future on an annual basis;

4. *Encourages* the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to continue to invite representatives of States parties to participate in a dialogue within the framework of their meetings, and welcomes broad participation by States parties in the dialogue;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the operations of the human rights treaty bodies, particularly in view of the additional demands placed on the system by the new reporting requirements and the increasing number of ratifications and, with this in mind:

(*a*) Reiterates its request that the Secretary-General provide adequate resources in respect of each human rights treaty body, while making the most efficient use of existing resources, in order to give the treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information;

(*b*) Calls upon the Secretary-General to seek, in the next biennium, the resources within the regular budget of the United Nations necessary to give the human rights treaty bodies adequate administrative support and better access to technical expertise and relevant information;

(*c*) Welcomes the plans of action prepared by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to enhance the resources available to all the human rights treaty bodies and thereby strengthen the implementation of the human rights treaties, and encourages all Governments, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and interested persons to consider contributing to the appeal for extrabudgetary resources for the treaty bodies made by the High Commissioner until the regular budget funding meets their needs;

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[342] Resolution 217 A (III).

[343] A/57/476.

[344] See A/57/56 and A/57/399 and Corr.1.

6. *Takes note* of the measures taken by each of the human rights treaty bodies to improve their functioning, as reflected in their respective annual reports, and encourages continuing efforts by the treaty bodies, with the assistance of the Secretary-General, to help States parties to improve their ability to meet their reporting obligations;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts by the human rights treaty bodies and the States parties, with the assistance of the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner, to improve the effectiveness of the treaty body system, and encourages them to continue to examine ways of further improving its effectiveness, inter alia, by streamlining and otherwise improving reporting procedures;

8. *Also welcomes* the initiative taken by certain human rights treaty bodies to set page limitations for the initial and periodic reports of States parties, and encourages other treaty bodies to consider setting page limitations;

9. *Requests* each State party to update its core document, incorporating as necessary material common to its multiple reports to the human rights treaty bodies;

10. *Commends* the recent efforts by the human rights treaty bodies, with the assistance of the Office of the High Commissioner, to improve the petition system and to reduce the backlog;

11. *Reiterates* that a priority of the Office of the High Commissioner should be to provide assistance to States parties, upon their request and, if possible, in coordination with other United Nations bodies, Governments and other interested parties, in order:

(*a*) To assist those States in the process of ratifying United Nations human rights instruments;

(*b*) To assist States to implement their obligations under such instruments, including the preparation of their initial reports;

12. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner and the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to enhance awareness of the availability of technical assistance for States parties;

13. *Welcomes*, in this respect, the first regional pilot workshop for dialogue on the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee, held at Quito from 27 to 29 August 2002;

14. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies and the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to identify specific possibilities for technical assistance, to be provided at the request of the State concerned, in the regular course of their work of reviewing the periodic reports of States parties, and encourages States parties to consider carefully the concluding observations of the treaty bodies in identifying their needs for technical assistance;

15. *Invites* States parties that have not yet submitted their initial reports pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments to avail themselves, where necessary, of technical assistance for this purpose;

16. *Welcomes* the efforts to eliminate the backlog of reports on the implementation by States parties of United Nations instruments on human rights and the progress made in ensuring timely consideration of reports of the human rights treaty bodies;

17. *Reiterates its concern* about the large number of overdue reports on the implementation by States parties of certain United Nations instruments on human rights, and:

(*a*) Urges States parties to make every effort to meet their reporting obligations;

(*b*) Welcomes the efforts made by certain human rights treaty bodies to consider the situations of some States parties with overdue reports;

(*c*) Welcomes new initiatives by certain human rights treaty bodies actively to follow up concluding observations and comments with States parties, including through the appointment of one of their members as rapporteur for follow-up;

18. *Urges* each State party whose report has been examined by a human rights treaty body to translate, publish and make available in its territory the full text of the concluding observations and comments of the treaty body on its report and to provide adequate follow-up to those observations;

19. *Welcomes* the contribution to the work of the human rights treaty bodies made by the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, and encourages the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies, the various organs of the Commission on Human Rights, including its special procedures, the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Office of the High Commissioner and the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies to continue to explore specific measures to intensify this cooperation among themselves and to improve communication and information flow so as to improve further the quality of their work, including by avoiding unnecessary duplication;

20. *Recognizes* the important role played by non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world in the effective implementation of all human rights instruments, and encourages the exchange of information between the human rights treaty bodies and such organizations;

21. *Recalls*, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the importance of giving consideration to equitable geographical distribution and gender balance of the membership and to the representation of the principal legal systems and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights, and encourages States parties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how better to give effect to these principles;

22. *Encourages* the efforts of the human rights treaty bodies to monitor more effectively the human rights of women, bearing in mind the workshops on gender integration, and reaffirms that it is the responsibility of all treaty bodies to integrate a gender perspective into their work;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session the reports of the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies on their periodic meetings, and to report to it at the same session on measures taken to implement the present resolution and obstacles to its implementation, on measures to encourage technical cooperation and on measures taken or planned to ensure financing and adequate staff and information resources for the effective operation of the treaty bodies;

24. *Decides* to consider this question on a priority basis at its fifty-ninth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/203

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[345]

57/203. Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Desirous of achieving further progress in international cooperation to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[346] the International Covenants on Human Rights[347] and other relevant instruments,

Deeply convinced that United Nations action in this field should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

Recalling its previous resolutions in this regard,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[348]

Affirming the importance of the objectivity, independence and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

Underlining the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

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[345] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China, Colombia, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[346] Resolution 217 A (III).

[347] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[348] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[346] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[347] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[347] and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses*, in this context, the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to take duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity;

11. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[349] and requests the Secretary-General to invite Member States to present practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights, through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on this question to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

12. *Decides* to consider this matter at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/204

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[350]

57/204. Human rights and cultural diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[351] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights[352] and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[352] as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

Recalling also its resolutions 54/160 of 17 December 1999 and 55/91 of 4 December 2000, and recalling further its resolutions 54/113 of 10 December 1999 and 55/23 of 13 November 2000 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

Noting that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,[353]

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[349] A/57/385.

[350] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

[351] Resolution 217 A (III).

[352] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[353] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[354]

Welcoming the adoption of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations by its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001,

Welcoming also the contribution of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to the promotion of respect for cultural diversity,

Welcoming further the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,[355] together with its Action Plan,[356] adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session, in which member States invited the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of the principles set forth in the Declaration and its Action Plan with a view to enhancing the synergy of actions in favour of cultural diversity,

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recognizing that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

Taking into account that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

Recognizing that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

Recognizing also that the promotion of the rights of indigenous people and their cultures and traditions will contribute to the respect for and observance of cultural diversity among all people and nations,

Considering that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice, intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred and violence among peoples and nations throughout the world,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

Convinced that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Welcomes* the adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,[357] in which Member States consider, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and that it should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity;

3. *Recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

4. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

5. *Expresses its determination* to prevent and mitigate cultural homogenization in the context of globalization, through increased intercultural exchange guided by the promotion and protection of cultural diversity;

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[354] A/57/311 and Add.1.

[355] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October–3 November 2001*, vol. I: *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[356] Ibid., annex II.

[357] See resolution 55/2.

6. *Affirms* that intercultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

7. *Welcomes* the recognition at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the necessity of respecting and maximizing the benefits of diversity within and among all nations in working together to build a harmonious and productive future by putting into practice and promoting values and principles such as justice, equality and non-discrimination, democracy, fairness and friendship, tolerance and respect within and among communities and nations, in particular through public information and educational programmes to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity, including programmes in which the public authorities work in partnership with international and non-governmental organizations and other sectors of civil society;

8. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

9. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national, regional and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

10. *Also emphasizes* that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and underlines the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive;

11. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

12. *Urges* States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic institutions so that they are more fully participatory and avoid marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

13. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the light of the present resolution, to prepare a report on human rights and cultural diversity, taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, as well as the considerations in the present resolution regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 57/205

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[358] by a recorded vote of 124 to 52, with 5 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated

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[358] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Colombia, Guatemala, Singapore, Turkey

57/205. Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing in particular the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[359] as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[360]

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[361] and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[361]

Recalling further the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[362] and the outcome documents of the twenty-third[363] and twenty-fourth[364] special sessions of the General Assembly, held, respectively, in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling also its resolutions 56/156 and 56/165 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling further Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/28 of 22 April 2002 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[365]

Recognizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Realizing that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, including in the field of human rights,

Realizing also that globalization is not merely an economic process but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Realizing further the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

Recognizing in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware that the risk of a global monoculture poses more of a threat if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

Recognizing also that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

Expressing concern at the negative impact of international financial turbulence on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights,

Deeply concerned that the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, has contributed, inter alia, to deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

Noting that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, by its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

2. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

3. *Reaffirms also* the commitment to creating an environment at both the national and the global level that is conducive to development and to the elimination of poverty through, inter alia, good governance within each country and at the international level, transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and commitment to an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

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[359] Resolution 217 A (III).

[360] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[361] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[362] See resolution 55/2.

[363] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[364] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[365] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

4. *Recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed, an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

5. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,[366] which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

6. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant United Nations agencies, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization, so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

7. *Recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

8. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system in which poor people and countries have a more effective voice;

9. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

10. *Affirms also* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

11. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

12. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[367] and requests the Secretary-General to seek further the views of Member States and relevant United Nations agencies and to submit a substantive report on this subject to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/206

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[368]

57/206. Human rights education

The General Assembly,

Taking into account Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/61 of 25 April 2001 regarding the importance of human rights education as a priority in education policies,[369]

Considering Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/38 of 26 July 2001 on human rights education,

Recalling its resolution 56/147 of 19 December 2001 on human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education and information contribute to the concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society of all ages, such as children, youth, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and disabled persons,

Considering the importance of human rights education,

Convinced that human rights education is a key to development,

Taking note with appreciation of the mid-term global evaluation of the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004, contained in the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,[370]

Taking into account the recommendations resulting from the mid-term global evaluation,

1. *Invites* all Governments to reaffirm their commitments and obligations to develop national strategies for human rights education which are comprehensive, participatory and effective and which can be embodied in a national plan of action for human rights education as part of their national development plans;

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[366] E/CN.4/2002/54.

[367] A/57/205 and Add.1.

[368] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Costa Rica, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago and Uganda.

[369] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[370] See A/55/360.

2. *Invites* the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to adopt a system-wide approach to the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004;

3. *Invites* relevant regional human rights organizations, agencies and networks to develop human rights education programmes and human rights training programmes and strategies for wider distribution of material on human rights education in all possible languages;

4. *Recognizes* the role that non-governmental organizations play in developing and implementing strategies to assist Governments to integrate human rights education into all levels of education for children, youth and adults;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/207

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[371]

57/207. Missing persons

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes, principles and provisions of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the principles and norms of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[372] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[373] as well as international standards of human rights, in particular the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[374] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[375] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[375] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[376] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[377]

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/60 adopted unanimously on 25 April 2002,[378]

Noting with deep concern that armed conflicts are continuing in various parts of the world, often resulting in serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law,

Recognizing that great technological progress has been achieved in the field of DNA forensic sciences with regard to missing persons, such as the work done by the International Commission on Missing Persons, based in Sarajevo, which could significantly assist efforts to identify missing persons from other conflict areas in the world,

Noting in this regard that the issue of persons reported missing in connection with international armed conflicts, in particular those who are victims of serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, continues to have a negative impact on efforts to put an end to those conflicts,

1. *Urges* States strictly to observe and respect and ensure respect for the rules of international humanitarian law, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 1949[372] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977;[373]

2. *Reaffirms* the right of families to know the fate of their relatives reported missing in connection with armed conflicts;

3. *Also reaffirms* that each party to an armed conflict, as soon as circumstances permit and, at the latest, from the end of active hostilities, shall search for the persons who have been reported missing by an adverse party;

4. *Calls upon* States which are parties to an armed conflict to take immediate steps to determine the identity and fate of persons reported missing in connection with the armed conflict;

5. *Requests* States to pay the utmost attention to cases of children reported missing in connection with armed conflicts and to take appropriate measures to search for and identify those children;

6. *Invites* States which are parties to an armed conflict to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross in establishing the fate of missing persons and to adopt a comprehensive approach to this issue, including all practical and coordination mechanisms that may be necessary, based on humanitarian considerations only;

7. *Urges* States and encourages intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to take all necessary measures at the national, regional and international levels to address the

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[371] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Angola, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mauritania, Pakistan, Panama, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Ukraine and Yugoslavia.

[372] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[373] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[374] Resolution 217 A (III).

[375] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[376] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[377] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[378] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflicts and to provide appropriate assistance as requested by the States concerned;

8. *Invites* all relevant human rights mechanisms and procedures, as appropriate, to address the problem of persons reported missing in connection with armed conflicts in their forthcoming reports to the General Assembly;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Governments, the competent United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies, regional intergovernmental organizations and international humanitarian organizations;

10. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter at its fifty-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 57/208

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[379]

57/208. Elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

The General Assembly,

Recalling that all States have pledged themselves, under the Charter of the United Nations, to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Reaffirming that discrimination against human beings on the grounds of religion or belief constitutes an affront to human dignity and a disavowal of the principles of the Charter,

Recalling article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[380] article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[381] and paragraph 4 of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[382]

Reaffirming its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination based on Religion or Belief,

Noting the provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,[383] aimed at combating religious intolerance,

Emphasizing that the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is far-reaching and profound and that it encompasses freedom of thought on all matters, personal conviction and the commitment to religion or belief, whether manifested individually or in community with others, and in public or private,

Reaffirming the call of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, for all Governments to take all appropriate measures in compliance with their international obligations and with due regard to their respective legal systems to counter intolerance and related violence based on religion or belief, including practices of discrimination against women and the desecration of religious sites, recognizing that every individual has the right to freedom of thought, conscience, expression and religion,[384]

Underlining the important role of education in the promotion of tolerance and elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Alarmed that serious instances of intolerance and discrimination on the grounds of religion or belief, including acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by religious intolerance, are on the increase in many parts of the world and threaten the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deeply concerned that, as reported by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on freedom of religion or belief, the rights violated on religious grounds include the right to life, the right to physical integrity and to liberty and security of person, the right to freedom of expression, the right not to be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the right not to be arbitrarily arrested or detained,

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[379] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[380] Resolution 217 A (III).

[381] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[382] See resolution 55/2.

[383] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[384] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 22.

Believing that intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as also emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance,

1. *Reaffirms* that freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief is a human right derived from the inherent dignity of the human person and guaranteed to all without discrimination;

2. *Urges* States to ensure that their constitutional and legal systems provide effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, including the provision of effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief is violated;

3. *Also urges* States to ensure, in particular, that no one within their jurisdiction is, because of their religion or belief, deprived of the right to life or the right to liberty and security of person or subjected to torture or arbitrary arrest or detention and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

4. *Further urges* States, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to take all necessary action to combat hatred, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities;

5. *Urges* States to devote particular attention to all practices motivated by religion or belief that lead, directly or indirectly, to violations of the human rights of women and to discrimination against women;

6. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest religion or belief are permitted only if those limitations that are prescribed by law are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals, or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion;

7. *Urges* States to ensure that, in the course of their official duties, members of law enforcement bodies and the military, civil servants, educators and other public officials respect different religions and beliefs and do not discriminate against persons professing other religions or beliefs and that any necessary and appropriate education or training is provided;

8. *Calls upon* all States to recognize, as provided in the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,[385] the right of all persons to worship or assemble in connection with a religion or belief and to establish and maintain places for those purposes;

9. *Expresses its grave concern* at all attacks upon religious places, sites and shrines, and calls upon all States, in accordance with their national legislation and in conformity with international human rights standards, to exert their utmost efforts to ensure that such places, sites and shrines are fully respected and protected and to take additional measures in cases where they are vulnerable to desecration or destruction;

10. *Recognizes* that legislation alone is not enough to prevent violations of human rights, including the right to freedom of religion or belief, and that the exercise of tolerance and non-discrimination by persons and groups is necessary for the full realization of the aims of the Declaration, and in this regard, invites States, religious bodies and civil society to undertake dialogue at all levels to promote greater tolerance, respect and understanding of freedom of religion or belief and to encourage and promote, through the educational system and by other means, understanding, tolerance and respect in matters relating to freedom of religion or belief;

11. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on freedom of religion or belief,[386] and encourages his continued efforts to examine incidents and governmental actions in all parts of the world that are incompatible with the provisions of the Declaration and to recommend remedial measures as appropriate;

12. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with the Special Rapporteur and to give serious consideration to his requests to visit their countries so as to enable him to fulfil his mandate fully and effectively;

13. *Welcomes* the initiatives of Governments and non-governmental organizations to collaborate with the Special Rapporteur, and in this regard invites Governments to give consideration to the final document adopted at the International Consultative Conference on School Education in relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance and Non-discrimination, held in Madrid from 23 to 25 November 2001;

14. *Urges* States to make all appropriate efforts to encourage those engaged in teaching to cultivate respect for all religions or beliefs, thereby promoting mutual understanding and tolerance;

15. *Encourages* Governments, when seeking the assistance of the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in the Field of Human Rights, to consider, where appropriate, including requests for

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[385] See resolution 36/55.

[386] See A/57/274.

assistance in the field of the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief;

16. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of non-governmental organizations and religious bodies and groups to promote the implementation and dissemination of the Declaration, and also encourages their work in relation to promoting freedom of religion or belief and in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution;

17. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights to continue its consideration of measures to implement the Declaration;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the necessary resources to enable him to discharge his mandate;

19. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions", and requests the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly on the item.

RESOLUTION 57/209

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[387]

57/209. Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, annexed to that resolution,

Reiterating the importance of the Declaration and stressing the importance of its wide dissemination,

Noting with deep concern that, in many countries, persons and organizations engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms are facing threats, harassment and insecurity as a result of those activities,

Gravely concerned by the human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world,

Recalling that human rights defenders are entitled to equal protection of the law, and deeply concerned about any abuse of civil or criminal proceedings against them because of their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Concerned by the considerable number of communications received by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders that, together with the reports submitted by some of the special procedure mechanisms, indicate the serious nature of the risks faced by human rights defenders and the particular consequences for women human rights defenders,

Noting with deep concern that, in a number of countries in all regions of the world, impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders persists and that this has a negative impact on the work and safety of human rights defenders,

Emphasizing the important role that individuals, non-governmental organizations and groups play in the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including in combating impunity,

Recalling that, under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[388] certain rights are recognized as non-derogable, and emphasizing that derogation from other rights and freedoms can only take place under strict observance of the agreed conditions and procedures identified under article 4 of the Covenant,

Welcoming the cooperation between the Special Representative and other special procedures of the Commission on Human Rights,

Welcoming also regional initiatives for the promotion and protection of human rights and the cooperation between international and regional mechanisms for the protection of human rights defenders, and encouraging further development in this regard,

Recalling that the primary responsibility for promoting and protecting human rights rests with the State, and noting with deep concern that the activities of some non-State actors pose a major threat to the security of human rights defenders,

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[387] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

[388] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Emphasizing the need for strong and effective measures for the protection of human rights defenders,

1. *Calls upon* all States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;

2. *Welcomes* the reports of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders[389] and her contribution to the effective promotion of the Declaration and improvement of the protection of human rights defenders worldwide;

3. *Condemns* all human rights violations committed against persons engaged in promoting and defending human rights and fundamental freedoms around the world, and urges States to take all appropriate action, consistent with the Declaration and all other relevant human rights instruments, to eliminate such human rights violations;

4. *Calls upon* all States to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection of human rights defenders;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of combating impunity, and in this regard urges States to take appropriate measures to address the question of impunity for threats, attacks and acts of intimidation against human rights defenders;

6. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Representative in the performance of her tasks and to furnish all information in the fulfilment of her mandate upon request;

7. *Encourages* Governments to give serious consideration to inviting the Special Representative to visit their countries so as to enable her to fulfil her mandate even more effectively;

8. *Urges* those Governments that have not yet responded to the communications transmitted to them by the Special Representative to answer without further delay;

9. *Invites* Governments to consider translating the Declaration into national languages, and encourages them to disseminate it widely;

10. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations within their mandates to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Representative in the implementation of her programme of activities;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide all necessary human and financial resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Representative;

12. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/210

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[390]

57/210. Regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 32/127 of 16 December 1977 and its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/51 of 9 March 1993[391] and its subsequent resolutions in this regard,

Bearing in mind the relevant resolutions of the Commission concerning advisory services and technical cooperation in the field of human rights, including its most recent on that subject, resolution 2002/87 of 26 April 2002,[392]

Bearing in mind also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[393] which reiterates, inter alia, the need to consider the possibility of establishing regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights where they do not already exist,

Recalling that the World Conference recommended that more resources should be made available for the strengthening of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights under the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,

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[389] E/CN.4/2001/94, A/56/341, E/CN.4/2002/106 and Add.1 and 2 and A/57/182.

[390] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Venezuela.

[391] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

[392] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[393] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

Reaffirming that regional arrangements play an important role in promoting and protecting human rights and should reinforce universal human rights standards, as contained in international human rights instruments, and their protection,

Noting the progress achieved thus far in the promotion and protection of human rights at the regional level under the auspices of the United Nations, the specialized agencies and the regional intergovernmental organizations,

Considering that cooperation between the United Nations and regional arrangements in the field of human rights continues to be both substantive and supportive and that possibilities exist for increased cooperation,

Welcoming the fact that the Office of the High Commissioner has been systematically pursuing a regional and subregional approach through a variety of complementary means and methods in order to maximize the impact of the activities of the United Nations at the national level,

1. *Takes notes with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General;[394]

2. *Welcomes* the continuing cooperation and assistance of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the further strengthening of the existing regional arrangements and regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights, in particular through technical cooperation which is aimed at national capacity-building, public information and education, with a view to exchanging information and experience in the field of human rights;

3. *Also welcomes*, in that respect, the close cooperation of the Office of the High Commissioner in the organization of regional and subregional training courses and workshops in the field of human rights, high-level governmental expert meetings and regional conferences of national human rights institutions, aimed at creating greater understanding in the regions of issues concerning the promotion and protection of human rights, improving procedures and examining the various systems for the promotion and protection of universally accepted human rights standards and identifying obstacles to ratification of the principal international human rights treaties and strategies to overcome them;

4. *Recognizes*, therefore, that progress in promoting and protecting all human rights depends primarily on efforts made at the national and local levels, and that the regional approach should imply intensive cooperation and coordination with all partners involved, while bearing in mind the importance of international cooperation;

5. *Stresses* the importance of the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights, renews its appeal to all Governments to consider making use of the possibilities offered by the United Nations under this programme of organizing information or training courses at the national level for government personnel on the application of international human rights standards and the experience of relevant international bodies, and notes with satisfaction, in that respect, the establishment of technical cooperation projects with Governments of all regions;

6. *Welcomes* the growing exchanges between the United Nations and the bodies created by the United Nations in accordance with the treaties dealing with human rights, on the one hand, and regional intergovernmental organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, and other regional institutions on the other;

7. *Also welcomes* the appointment by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of four human rights personalities to serve as regional advisers, who will play a significant role in the promotion of human rights and human rights advocacy through the design of strategies and the development of partnerships for human rights, facilitate coordination of human rights technical cooperation in the region and assist regional cooperation at large, for example, among national institutions, parliamentary human rights bodies, bar associations and non-governmental organizations;

8. *Further welcomes* the placement by the Office of the High Commissioner of regional representatives in subregions and in regional commissions to allow for closer working relations with States, international and regional organizations as well as with non-governmental organizations;

9. *Recalls* in this regard the positive experience of the regional and subregional presence in southern, central, eastern and western Africa;

10. *Notes with interest* the results of the African regional dialogues held at Geneva and Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, from 5 to 7 November 2001 and 24 to 26 May 2002, respectively, in providing guidance to Governments, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations as well as better links with the African Union and other subregional organizations, and in this respect notes with appreciation the Constitutive Act of the African Union, in particular article 4, in which it is stated that the Union shall function in accordance with several principles, inter alia, the promotion of gender equality and the respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance;

11. *Also notes with interest* the increased, valuable sharing of concrete national experiences, at the ninth and tenth Workshops on Regional Cooperation for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Asian and Pacific Region

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[394] A/57/283.

held in Bangkok and Beirut from 28 February to 2 March 2001 and from 4 to 6 March, respectively, regarding the implementation of the Framework of Regional Technical Cooperation for the Asia-Pacific Region, which contributes to the enhancement of the promotion and protection of human rights in the region;

12. *Takes note with interest* of the Quito Framework for Technical Cooperation in the Field of Human Rights, which serves as a basis for the regional strategy of the Office of the High Commissioner, aimed at strengthening national capacities for the promotion of human rights in Latin America and the Caribbean, and in this regard welcomes the meeting on the enforcement of the system of treaty bodies held in Quito in August 2002;

13. *Welcomes* the continued cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner and regional organizations in Europe and Central Asia, in particular the development, as a priority, of a regional approach to preventing trafficking in persons;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the holding of the International Conference on Human Rights and Democratization in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 8 to 10 October 2001, co-organized by the Office of the High Commissioner, the Government of Croatia and the European Commission, which provided the opportunity to review developments in the field of human rights in the region;

15. *Invites* States in areas in which regional arrangements in the field of human rights do not yet exist to consider concluding agreements, with a view to establishing, within their respective regions, suitable regional machinery for the promotion and protection of human rights;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as foreseen in programme 19, Human rights, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[395] to continue to strengthen exchanges between the United Nations and regional intergovernmental organizations dealing with human rights and to make available adequate resources from within the regular budget of technical cooperation to the activities of the Office of the High Commissioner to promote regional arrangements;

17. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to pay special attention to the most appropriate ways of assisting countries of the various regions, at their request, under the programme of technical cooperation and to make, where necessary, relevant recommendations;

18. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in the report he will submit to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session, to provide information on progress made since the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[393] on reinforcing the exchange of information and extending collaboration between the organs of the United Nations dealing with human rights and regional organizations in the field of the promotion and protection of human rights;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights, to formulate concrete proposals and recommendations on ways and means to strengthen cooperation between United Nations and regional arrangements in the field of human rights and to include therein the results of action taken in pursuance of the present resolution;

20. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fifty-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 57/211

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[396]

57/211. Human rights and extreme poverty

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[397] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[398] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[398] and other human rights instruments adopted by the United Nations,

Considering the relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World

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[395] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

[396] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[397] Resolution 217 A (III).

[398] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[399] and of the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, adopted by the World Summit on 12 March 1995,[400] and the outcome document of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", adopted at Geneva on 1 July 2000,[401] and the recognition of the contributions of the outcomes of recent United Nations conferences, special sessions and summits, such as the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[402] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[403]

Welcoming the decision of the World Summit on Sustainable Development to establish a world solidarity fund to eradicate poverty and promote social and human development, as defined in paragraph 7 (*b*) of its Plan of Implementation,[404]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration[405] and the development goals contained therein, including the commitment to halve by 2015 the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling also its resolutions 47/196 of 22 December 1992, by which it declared 17 October the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, 48/183 of 21 December 1993, by which it proclaimed 1996 the International Year for the Eradication of Poverty, 50/107 of 20 December 1995, by which it proclaimed the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), and 56/207 of 21 December 2001 on the implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006), including the proposal to establish a world solidarity fund for poverty eradication,

Recalling further its resolution 55/106 of 4 December 2000 and its previous resolutions on human rights and extreme poverty,

Recalling its resolution 52/134 of 12 December 1997, in which it recognized that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights was essential for the understanding, promotion and protection of all human rights,

Recalling also resolution 56/207, in which it expressed its deep concern that the number of people living in extreme poverty in many countries continued to increase, with women and children constituting the majority and the most affected group, in particular in African countries and the least developed countries,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolutions 2000/12 of 17 April 2000,[406] 2001/31 of 23 April 2001[407] and 2002/30 of 22 April 2002,[408] as well as resolution 1996/23 of 29 August 1996[409] of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities,[410] and resolutions 2001/8 of 15 August 2001[411] and 2002/13 of 14 August 2002[412] of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights,

Recalling its resolution 47/134 of 18 December 1992, in which it reaffirmed that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constituted a violation of human dignity and stressed the need for a complete and in-depth study of extreme poverty, based on the active and informed participation of the people living in poverty,

Recognizing that the eradication of extreme poverty is a major challenge within the process of globalization and requires coordinated and continued policies through decisive national action and international cooperation,

Reaffirming that, since the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and might, in some situations, constitute a threat to the right to life, its immediate alleviation and eventual eradication must remain a high priority for the international community,

Considering that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with interest the reports submitted to the General Assembly by the Secretary-General[413] and to the Commission on Human Rights by the independent expert on the question of human rights and extreme poverty[414] and the recommendations contained therein,

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[399] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[400] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[401] Resolution S-24/2, annex.

[402] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[403] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex, and resolution 2, annex.

[404] Ibid., chap. I, resolution 2, annex, para. 7 (*b*).

[405] See resolution 55/2.

[406] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr. 1), chap. II, sect. A.

[407] Ibid., *2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[408] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[409] See E/CN.4/1997/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1996/41, chap. II, sect. A.

[410] Subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

[411] See E/CN.4/2002/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2001/40, chap. II, sect. A.

[412] See E/CN.4/2003/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2002/46, chap. II, sect. A.

[413] A/57/369.

Also noting with interest the appointment of experts by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in the context of the fight against extreme poverty,[415]

1. *Reaffirms* that extreme poverty and exclusion from society constitute a violation of human dignity and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to eliminate them;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is essential for States to foster participation by the poorest people in the decision-making process in the societies in which they live, in the promotion of human rights and in efforts to combat extreme poverty, and that it is essential for people living in poverty and vulnerable groups to be empowered to organize themselves and to participate in all aspects of political, economic and social life, in particular the planning and implementation of policies that affect them, thus enabling them to become genuine partners in development;

3. *Emphasizes* that extreme poverty is a major issue to be addressed by Governments, civil society and the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, and in this context reaffirms that political commitment is a prerequisite for the eradication of poverty;

4. *Recognizes* that surmounting extreme poverty constitutes an essential means to the full enjoyment of political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights, and reaffirms the interrelationship among these goals;

5. *Reaffirms* that the existence of widespread absolute poverty inhibits the full and effective enjoyment of human rights and renders democracy and popular participation fragile;

6. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

7. *Reaffirms* the commitments to the achievement of the development and poverty eradication goals contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[405] and in the outcome documents of relevant major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions;

8. *Invites* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within the framework of the implementation of the United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty, to continue to give appropriate attention to the question of human rights and extreme poverty;

9. *Notes with appreciation* the specific actions taken by the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to mitigate the effects of extreme poverty on children, and the efforts of the United Nations Development Programme to give priority to the search for some means of alleviating poverty within the framework of the relevant resolutions, and urges them to continue this work;

10. *Calls upon* States, United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to continue to give appropriate attention to the links between human rights and extreme poverty;

11. *Decides* to consider this question further at its fifty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 57/212

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[416]

57/212. United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004

The General Assembly,

Guided by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[417]

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[414] E/CN.4/2002/55.

[415] See resolutions 2001/8 and 2002/13 of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

[416] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

[417] Resolution 217 A (III).

Reaffirming article 26 of the Declaration, in which it is stated that "education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms", and recalling the provisions of other relevant international human rights instruments that reflect the aims of the article,

Recalling the high importance attached to human rights education by the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights concerning the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,

Believing that human rights education constitutes an important vehicle for the elimination of gender-based discrimination and for ensuring equal opportunities through the promotion and protection of the human rights of women,

Convinced that every woman, man and child, in order to realize their full human potential, must be made aware of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Convinced also that human rights education should involve more than the provision of information and should constitute a comprehensive, lifelong process by which people at all levels of development and in all societies learn respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring that respect in all societies,

Recognizing that human rights education is essential to the realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms and that carefully designed training, dissemination and information programmes can have a catalytic effect on national, regional and international initiatives to promote and protect human rights and prevent human rights violations,

Convinced that human rights education contributes to a holistic concept of development consistent with the dignity of women and men of all ages, which takes into account particularly vulnerable segments of society, such as children, young persons, older persons, indigenous people, minorities, the rural and urban poor, migrant workers, refugees, persons with the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and disabled persons,

Affirming that human rights education is a key to changing attitudes and behaviour based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to promoting tolerance and respect for diversity in societies and that such education is a determining factor in the promotion, dissemination and protection of the democratic values of justice and equity, which are essential to prevent and combat the spread of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, as was recognized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001,[418]

Welcoming the holding of the International Consultative Conference on School Education in Relation to Freedom of Religion and Belief, Tolerance and Non-discrimination in Madrid from 23 to 25 November 2001,

Welcoming also the efforts to promote human rights education made by educators and non-governmental organizations in all parts of the world, as well as by intergovernmental organizations, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Programme,

Recognizing the outcomes of the regional conferences on human rights education organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, held in Turku, Finland, in 1997, in Dakar, Senegal, in 1998, in Pune, India, in 1999, in Rabat, Morocco, in 1999, and in Mexico City, Mexico, in 2001,

Recognizing also the invaluable and creative role that non-governmental and community-based organizations play in the promotion and protection of human rights by disseminating public information and engaging in human rights education, especially at the grass-roots level and in remote and rural communities,

Aware of the potential role of the private sector in implementing at all levels of society the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[419] and the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights through financial support for governmental and non-governmental activities as well as their own creative initiatives,

Convinced that the effectiveness of existing human rights education and public information activities would be enhanced by better coordination and cooperation at the national, regional and international levels,

Recalling that it is within the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to coordinate relevant United Nations education and public information programmes in the field of human rights,

Noting with appreciation the efforts undertaken thus far by the Office of the High Commissioner to increase information-sharing in the area of human rights education through the development of a database and resource collection on human rights education and to disseminate human rights information through its web site,[420] its publications and its external relations programmes,

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[418] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[419] A/51/506/Add.1, appendix.

Welcoming the initiative of the Office of the High Commissioner to develop further the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together", launched in 1998, supported by voluntary funds and designed to provide small grants to grass-roots and local organizations carrying out practical human rights activities,

Welcoming also other United Nations public information activities in the field of human rights, including the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights and the implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted at the World Conference on Human Rights,[421] the project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization entitled "Towards a culture of peace", and the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,[422] which, inter alia, reconfirmed the mandated role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in coordinating "Education for All" partners and maintaining their collective momentum within the process of securing quality basic education,

Recognizing the value of information and communications technologies in human rights education to promote dialogue and understanding of human rights, and in that context welcoming, inter alia, the CyberSchoolBus[423] and the United Nations Children's Fund "Voices of Youth"[424] initiatives,

Recalling the mid-term global evaluation of progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner, in cooperation with all other principal actors in the Decade, which was presented in the relevant report of the High Commissioner to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session,[425]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[426] and public information activities in the field of human rights;

2. *Urges* all Governments to promote the development of comprehensive, participatory and sustainable national strategies for human rights education and to establish and strengthen, as a priority in education policies, knowledge of human rights, in both the theoretical dimension and practical application;

3. *Welcomes* the steps taken by Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to implement the Plan of Action for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education, 1995–2004,[419] and to develop public information activities in the field of human rights, as indicated in the report of the High Commissioner;

4. *Urges* all Governments to contribute further to the implementation of the Plan of Action, in particular by:

(*a*) Encouraging the establishment, in accordance with national conditions, of broadly representative national committees for human rights education responsible for the development of comprehensive, effective and sustainable national plans of action for human rights education and information, taking into consideration the recommendations of the mid-term global evaluation of the Decade and the guidelines for national plans of action for human rights education developed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights;[427]

(*b*) Encouraging, supporting and involving national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in the implementation of their national plans of action;

(*c*) Initiating and developing cultural and educational programmes aimed at countering racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, and supporting and implementing public information campaigns and specific training programmes in the field of human rights, as emphasized at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance;[418]

5. *Encourages* Governments to consider, within their national plans of action for human rights education:

(*a*) The establishment of public access human rights resource and training centres to carry out research, including on child and gender-sensitive training of trainers;

(*b*) The preparation, collection, translation and dissemination of human rights education and training materials;

(*c*) The organization of courses, conferences, workshops and public information campaigns and assistance in the implementation of internationally sponsored technical cooperation projects for human rights education and public information;

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[420] www.unhchr.ch.

[421] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[422] See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26–28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

[423] See www.un.org/Pubs/CyberSchoolBus/humanrights.

[424] See www.unicef.org/voy.

[425] See A/55/360.

[426] A/57/323.

[427] A/52/469/Add.1 and Corr.1.

6. *Encourages* States, where such national public access human rights resource and training centres exist, to strengthen their capacity to support human rights education and public information programmes at the international, regional, national and local levels;

7. *Calls upon* Governments, in accordance with national conditions, to accord priority to the dissemination, in the relevant national local and indigenous languages, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[417] the International Covenants on Human Rights[428] and other human rights instruments, human rights materials and training manuals, including information on human rights mechanisms and complaint procedures and reports of States parties submitted under international human rights treaties, and to provide information and education in those languages on the practical ways in which national and international institutions and procedures may be utilized to ensure the effective implementation of those instruments;

8. *Encourages* Governments to support further, through voluntary contributions, the education and public information efforts undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner within the framework of the Plan of Action;

9. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to coordinate and harmonize human rights education and information strategies within the United Nations system, including the implementation of the Plan of Action, in cooperation, inter alia, with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and to ensure maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the collection, use, processing, management and distribution of human rights information and educational materials, including through electronic means;

10. *Encourages* Governments to contribute to the further development of the web site of the Office of the High Commissioner,[420] in particular with respect to the dissemination of human rights education materials and tools, and to continue and expand the publications and external relations programmes of the Office;

11. *Encourages* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue to support national capacities for human rights education and information through its technical cooperation programme in the field of human rights, including the organization of training courses and peer education initiatives and the development of targeted training materials for professional audiences, as well as the dissemination of human rights information materials as a component of technical cooperation projects, to develop further its database and resource collection on human rights education and to continue to monitor developments in human rights education;

12. *Urges* the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to continue to utilize United Nations information centres for the timely dissemination, within their designated areas of activity, of basic information, reference and audio-visual materials on human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the reports of States parties submitted under international human rights instruments and, to that end, to ensure that the information centres are supplied with adequate quantities of those materials;

13. *Stresses* the need for close collaboration between the Office of the High Commissioner and the Department of Public Information in the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign on Human Rights as well as the need to harmonize their activities with those of other international organizations, including with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on its project entitled "Towards a culture of peace" and the International Committee of the Red Cross, and relevant non-governmental organizations with regard to the dissemination of information on international humanitarian law;

14. *Invites* the specialized agencies and relevant United Nations programmes and funds to continue to contribute, within their respective spheres of competence, to the implementation of the Plan of Action and the World Public Information Campaign and to cooperate and coordinate with each other and with the Office of the High Commissioner in that regard;

15. *Encourages* the relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system, all human rights bodies of the United Nations system, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to provide training in human rights for all United Nations personnel and officials;

16. *Encourages* the human rights treaty bodies, when examining reports of States parties, to place emphasis on the obligations of States parties in the area of human rights education and to reflect that emphasis in their concluding observations;

17. *Encourages* all relevant mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, that is, working groups and special rapporteurs, representatives or experts, to include systematically in their reports a specific section on human rights education, as relevant to their mandate, as well as to include human rights education as an item on the agenda of their annual meetings, with a view to strengthening their contribution to human rights education;

18. *Calls upon* international, regional and national non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental organizations, in particular those concerned with children and youth, women, labour, development, food, housing, education,

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[428] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

health care and the environment, as well as all other social justice groups, human rights advocates, educators, religious organizations, the private sector and the media, to undertake specific activities of formal, non-formal and informal education, including cultural events, alone and in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in implementing the Plan of Action;

19. *Welcomes*, in that context, initiatives to include civil society, non-governmental organizations, children and youth in national delegations to world conferences, summits and other meetings, as well as the work of non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental agencies in organizing parallel meetings of non-governmental organizations as well as youth satellite meetings, as an important component of human rights education;

20. *Encourages* Governments, regional organizations and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to explore the potential support and contribution to human rights education of all relevant partners, including the private sector, development, trade and financial institutions and the media, and to seek their cooperation in the development of human rights education strategies;

21. *Encourages* regional organizations to develop strategies for the wider distribution of materials on human rights education through regional networks and to develop region-specific programmes to maximize the participation of national entities, whether governmental or non-governmental, in programmes on human rights education;

22. *Encourages* intergovernmental organizations to assist, upon request, collaboration between governmental institutions and non-governmental organizations at the national level;

23. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to continue the implementation of and to expand the project entitled "Assisting Communities Together" and to consider other appropriate ways and means to support human rights education activities, including those undertaken by non-governmental organizations;

24. *Requests* the High Commissioner to bring the present resolution to the attention of all members of the international community and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned with human rights education and public information and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the progress made towards the achievement of the objectives of the Decade under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/213

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[429] by a recorded vote of 116 to 55, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Fiji, Guatemala, Mexico, Nauru, Panama, Peru

57/213. Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/151 of 19 December 2001, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/72 of 25 April 2002,[430]

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

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[429] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[430] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Affirming that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and, inter alia, with full respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

Recalling the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[431] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming also the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practice tolerance and good-neighbourliness, and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Considering also that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

Emphasizing that democracy is not only a political concept but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

Recognizing that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society, and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

Noting with concern that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

Underlining the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people, and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

Stressing that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures, at the global level, that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

Having listened to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

Resolved to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies, and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity,[432] and reiterates that only through broad and sustained efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

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[431] Resolution 217 A (III).

[432] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

4. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(*a*) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(*b*) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(*c*) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(*d*) The right of all peoples to peace;

(*e*) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(*f*) Solidarity, as a fundamental value, by virtue of which global challenges must be managed in a way that distributes costs and burdens fairly, in accordance with basic principles of equity and social justice, and ensures that those who suffer or benefit the least receive help from those who benefit the most;

(*g*) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principles of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(*h*) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(*i*) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(*j*) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order, based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(*k*) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(*l*) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment;

(*m*) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in economic, commercial and financial international relations;

(*n*) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind;

(*o*) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security that should be exercised multilaterally;

5. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

6. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

8. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

9. *Recalls* the proclamation by the General Assembly of its determination to work urgently for the establishment of an international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations;[433]

10. *Reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights

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[433] See resolution 3201 (S-VI).

and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

11. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

12. *Requests* the Commission on Human Rights, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

13. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, to take into account the present resolution in the preparations and development of the expert seminar to examine the interdependence between democracy and human rights that it will convene in January 2003, and to invite all Governments, specialized agencies, United Nations funds and programmes and interested non-governmental organizations to attend that seminar;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

15. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its fifty-ninth session under the agenda item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/214

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[434] by a recorded vote of 130 to none, with 49 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, China, Comoros, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gambia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Myanmar, Nauru, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tonga, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen

57/214. Extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[435] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, and the relevant provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[436]

Having regard to the legal framework of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, including the provisions contained in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1992/72 of 5 March 1992[437] and General Assembly resolution 47/136 of 18 December 1992,

Mindful of its resolutions on the subject of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, of which the most recent is resolution 55/111 of 4 December 2000, and resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the subject, and taking note of the most recent, resolution 2002/36 of 22 April 2002,[438]

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1984/50 of 25 May 1984 and the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty, annexed thereto, and Council resolution 1989/64 of 24 May 1989 on their implementation, as well as the Declaration of

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[434] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

[435] Resolution 217 A (III).

[436] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[437] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 2* (E/1992/22), chap. II, sect. A.

[438] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/65 of 24 May 1989, in which the Council recommended the Principles on the Effective Prevention and Investigation of Extra-legal, Arbitrary and Summary Executions,

Dismayed that in a number of countries impunity, the negation of justice, continues to prevail and often remains the main cause of the continuing occurrence of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions in those countries,

Acknowledging the entry into force on 1 July 2002 of the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court,[439] thereby contributing to ensuring prosecution and the prevention of impunity concerning extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,

Convinced of the need for effective action to combat and to eliminate the abhorrent practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, which represent a flagrant violation of the right to life,

1. *Strongly condemns once again* all the extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that continue to take place throughout the world;

2. *Demands* that all Governments ensure that the practice of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions is brought to an end and that they take effective action to combat and eliminate the phenomenon in all its forms;

3. *Acknowledges* the historic significance of the establishment of the International Criminal Court on 1 July 2002, and the fact that a significant number of States have already signed, ratified or acceded to the Rome Statute,[439] and calls upon all other States to consider becoming parties to the Statute;

4. *Notes with deep concern* that impunity continues to be a major cause of the perpetuation of violations of human rights, including extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

5. *Reiterates* the obligation of all Governments to conduct exhaustive and impartial investigations into all suspected cases of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, to identify and bring to justice those responsible, while ensuring the right of every person to a fair and public hearing by a competent, independent and impartial tribunal established by law, to grant adequate compensation within a reasonable time to the victims or their families and to adopt all necessary measures, including legal and judicial measures, in order to bring an end to impunity and to prevent the further occurrence of such executions;

6. *Reaffirms* the obligation of Governments to ensure the protection of the right to life of all persons under their jurisdiction, and calls upon Governments concerned to investigate promptly and thoroughly all cases of killings committed in the name of passion or in the name of honour, all killings committed for any discriminatory reason, including sexual orientation, racially motivated violence leading to the death of the victim, killings of persons for reasons related to their peaceful activities as human rights defenders or as journalists, as well as other cases where a person's right to life has been violated, and to bring those responsible to justice before a competent, independent and impartial judiciary and ensure that such killings, including killings committed by security forces, paramilitary groups or private forces, are neither condoned nor sanctioned by government officials or personnel;

7. *Urges* Governments to undertake all necessary and possible measures to prevent loss of life, in particular that of children, during public demonstrations, internal and communal violence, civil unrest and public emergencies or armed conflicts, and to ensure that the police and security forces receive thorough training in human rights matters, in particular with regard to restrictions on the use of force and firearms in the discharge of their functions, and that they act with restraint and respect international human rights standards when carrying out their duties;

8. *Stresses* the importance of States taking effective measures to end impunity with regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, inter alia, through the adoption of preventive measures, and calls upon Governments to ensure that such measures are included in post-conflict peace-building measures;

9. *Encourages* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to organize training programmes and to support projects with a view to training or educating military forces, law enforcement officers and government officials in human rights and humanitarian law issues connected with their work, and appeals to the international community and requests the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to support endeavours to that end;

10. *Reaffirms* Economic and Social Council decision 2001/266 of 24 July 2001, in which the Council endorsed the decision of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 2001/45 of 23 April 2001,[440] to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on

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[439] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[440] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Human Rights on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions for three years;

11. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur to the General Assembly[441] and the recommendations contained therein;

12. *Recalls* that the Commission, in its resolution 2001/45, requested the Special Rapporteur, in carrying out her mandate:

(*a*) To continue to examine situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and to submit her findings on an annual basis, together with conclusions and recommendations, to the Commission, as well as such reports as the Special Rapporteur deems necessary in order to keep the Commission informed about serious situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions that warrant its immediate attention;

(*b*) To respond effectively to information that comes before her, in particular when an extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary execution is imminent or seriously threatened or when such an execution has occurred;

(*c*) To enhance further her dialogue with Governments, as well as to follow up on recommendations made in reports after visits to particular countries;

(*d*) To continue to pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions of children and to allegations concerning violations of the right to life in the context of violence against participants in demonstrations and other peaceful public manifestations or against persons belonging to minorities;

(*e*) To continue to pay special attention to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions where the victims are individuals carrying out peaceful activities in defence of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*f*) To continue monitoring the implementation of existing international standards on safeguards and restrictions relating to the imposition of capital punishment, bearing in mind the comments made by the Human Rights Committee in its interpretation of article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[436] as well as the Second Optional Protocol thereto;[442]

(*g*) To apply a gender perspective in her work;

13. *Recognizes* the importance of raising awareness for the elimination of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions, for which impunity should be neither condoned nor tolerated, and of stressing that extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions are a flagrant violation of human rights, in particular the right to life, of which no one should be arbitrarily deprived, and in this regard encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue, within her mandate, to collect information from all concerned, to respond effectively to reliable information that comes before her, to follow up on communications and country visits and to seek the views and comments of Governments and to reflect them, as appropriate, in her reports;

14. *Urges* the Special Rapporteur to continue, within her mandate, to bring to the attention of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights situations of extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions which are of particularly serious concern or where early action might prevent further deterioration;

15. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Special Rapporteur and other United Nations mechanisms and procedures relating to human rights, as well as with medical and forensic experts, and encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue efforts in that regard;

16. *Strongly urges* all Governments, in particular those who have not yet done so, to respond without undue delay to the communications and requests for information transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and urges them and all others concerned to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur so that she may carry out her mandate effectively, including, where appropriate, by issuing invitations to the Special Rapporteur when she so requests;

17. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that have invited the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries, asks them to examine carefully the recommendations made by the Special Rapporteur, invites them to report to the Special Rapporteur on the actions taken on those recommendations, and requests other Governments to cooperate in a similar way;

18. *Calls upon* the Governments of all States in which the death penalty has not been abolished to comply with their obligations under relevant provisions of international human rights instruments, keeping in mind the safeguards and guarantees referred to in Economic and Social Council resolutions 1984/50 and 1989/64;

19. *Again requests* the Secretary-General to continue to use his best endeavours in cases where the minimum standards of legal safeguards provided for in articles 6, 9, 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights appear not to have been respected;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Rapporteur with adequate human, financial and material resources to enable her to carry out her mandate effectively, including through country visits;

21. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue, in close collaboration with the High Commissioner, in conformity with the mandate of the High Commissioner established by the

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[441] A/57/138.

[442] Resolution 44/128, annex.

General Assembly in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to ensure that personnel specialized in human rights and humanitarian law issues form part of United Nations missions, where appropriate, in order to deal with serious violations of human rights, such as extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions;

22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session on the situation worldwide in regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and her recommendations for more effective action to combat that phenomenon.

RESOLUTION 57/215

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[443]

57/215. Question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[444] the International Covenants on Human Rights[445] and the other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling its resolution 33/173 of 20 December 1978 concerning disappeared persons and its resolutions on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances, in particular resolution 55/103 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992 proclaiming the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as a body of principles for all States,

Deeply concerned, in particular, by the intensification of enforced disappearances, including arrest, detention and abduction, where these are part of or amount to enforced disappearances, in various regions of the world and by the growing number of reports concerning the harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

Emphasizing that impunity with regard to enforced disappearances contributes to the perpetuation of this phenomenon and constitutes one of the obstacles to the elucidation of its manifestations,

Taking note with interest of the initiatives taken at the national and international levels in order to end impunity,

Acknowledging the fact that acts of enforced disappearance, as defined in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[446] come within the jurisdiction of the Court as crimes against humanity,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/41 of 23 April 2002,[447]

Convinced that further efforts are needed to promote wider awareness of and respect for the Declaration, and taking note in this regard of the report of the Secretary-General,[448]

Taking note of the last report submitted by the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights,[449]

1. *Reaffirms* that any act of enforced disappearance is an offence to human dignity and a grave and flagrant violation of the human rights and fundamental freedoms proclaimed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[444] and reaffirmed and developed in other international instruments in this field, as well as a violation of the rules of international law; and that no State shall practise, permit or tolerate enforced disappearances as proclaimed in the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;

2. *Urges* all Governments to take appropriate legislative or other steps to prevent and suppress the practice of enforced disappearances, in keeping with the Declaration, and to take action to that end at the national and regional levels and in cooperation with the United Nations, including through the provision of technical assistance;

3. *Calls upon* Governments to take steps to ensure that, when a state of emergency is introduced, the protection of human rights is ensured, in particular as regards the prevention of enforced disappearances;

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[443] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[444] Resolution 217 A (III).

[445] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[446] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[447] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[448] A/57/140.

[449] E/CN.4/2002/79.

4. *Reminds* Governments that impunity with regard to enforced disappearances contributes to the perpetuation of this phenomenon and constitutes one of the obstacles to the elucidation of its manifestations, and in this respect also reminds them of the need to ensure that their competent authorities conduct prompt and impartial inquiries in all circumstances in which there is a reason to believe that an enforced disappearance has occurred in territory under their jurisdiction, and that, if allegations are confirmed, perpetrators should be prosecuted;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Governments that are investigating, have developed or are developing appropriate mechanisms to investigate any cases of enforced disappearances which are brought to their attention, and urges all the Governments concerned to expand their efforts in this area;

6. *Once again urges* the Governments concerned to take steps to protect the families of disappeared persons against any intimidation or ill-treatment to which they may be subjected;

7. *Reaffirms* that all persons deprived of liberty must be released in a manner permitting reliable verification that they have actually been released and, further, have been released in conditions in which their physical integrity and ability to exercise their rights are assured;

8. *Encourages* States, as some have already done, to provide concrete information on measures taken to give effect to the Declaration, as well as obstacles encountered;

9. *Requests* all States to consider the possibility of disseminating the text of the Declaration in their respective national languages and to facilitate its dissemination in local languages;

10. *Notes* the action taken by non-governmental organizations to encourage implementation of the Declaration, and invites them to continue to facilitate its dissemination and to contribute to the work of the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights;

11. *Stresses* the importance of the work of the Working Group on enforced or involuntary disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights and encourages it in the execution of its mandate to continue to promote communication between the families of disappeared persons and the Governments concerned, with a view to ensuring that sufficiently documented and clearly identified individual cases are investigated, and to ascertaining whether such information falls under its mandate and contains the required elements;

12. *Invites* the Working Group to continue to seek the views and comments of all concerned, including Member States, in preparing its reports;

13. *Also invites* the Working Group to identify obstacles to the realization of the provisions of the Declaration, to recommend ways of overcoming those obstacles and, in this regard, to continue a dialogue with Governments and relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

14. *Encourages* the Working Group to continue to consider the question of impunity, in the light of the relevant provisions of the Declaration and of the final reports submitted by the special rapporteurs[450] appointed by the Subcommission;

15. *Requests* the Working Group to pay the utmost attention to cases of children subjected to enforced disappearance and children of disappeared persons and to cooperate closely with the Governments concerned to search for and identify those children;

16. *Appeals* to the Governments concerned, in particular those which have not yet replied to the communications transmitted by the Working Group, to cooperate fully with it and, in particular, to reply promptly to its requests for information so that, while respecting its working methods based on discretion, it may perform its strictly humanitarian role;

17. *Encourages* the Governments concerned to give serious consideration to inviting the Working Group to visit their countries so as to enable the Group to fulfil its mandate even more effectively;

18. *Expresses its profound thanks* to the many Governments that have cooperated with the Working Group and replied to its requests for information and to the Governments that have invited the Group to visit their countries, requests them to give all necessary attention to the recommendations of the Group, and invites them to inform the Group of any action they take on those recommendations;

19. *Calls upon* the Commission on Human Rights to continue to study this question as a matter of priority and to take any steps it may deem necessary to the pursuit of the task of the Working Group and to the follow-up to its recommendations when it considers the report to be submitted by the Group to the Commission at its fifty-ninth session;

20. *Renews its requests* to the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Working Group with all of the facilities it requires to perform its functions, especially for carrying out missions and following them up;

21. *Recalls* Economic and Social Council decision 2001/221 of 4 June 2001 in which the Council endorsed the decision of the Commission on Human Rights to create an intersessional open-ended working group, with the mandate to prepare a draft legally binding normative instrument for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance;

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[450] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/8 and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1997/20/Rev.1.

22. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the report of the independent expert charged with examining the existing international criminal and human rights framework for the protection of persons from enforced or involuntary disappearances,[451] which, in accordance with Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/46 of 23 April 2001,[452] will be presented to the intersessional working group established pursuant to that resolution, at its first session;

23. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Commission to convene the intersessional working group before its fifty-ninth session, to prepare, for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly, a draft legally binding normative instrument for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance, on the basis of the Declaration adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/133, in the light of the work of the independent expert and taking into account, inter alia, the draft international convention on the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance,[453] transmitted by the Subcommission in its resolution 1998/25 of 26 August 1998;[454]

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the steps he takes to secure the widespread dissemination and promotion of the Declaration;

25. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it at its fifty-ninth session a report on the steps taken to implement the present resolution;

26. *Decides* to consider the question of enforced disappearances, in particular the implementation of the Declaration, at its fifty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 57/216

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[455] by a recorded vote of 116 to 53, with 14 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ethiopia, Fiji, Guatemala, India, Madagascar, Nauru, Samoa, Singapore, Tonga, Uruguay, Uzbekistan

57/216. Promotion of the right of peoples to peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 39/11 of 12 November 1984, entitled "Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace",

Recalling also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/71 of 25 April 2002, entitled "Promotion of the right of peoples to peace",[456]

Bearing in mind the fundamental principles of international law set forth in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice are not endangered,

Reaffirming also the obligation of all States to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming further the importance of ensuring respect for the principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of States and non-intervention in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State, in accordance with the Charter and international law,

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[451] E/CN.4/2002/71.

[452] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[453] E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/19, annex.

[454] See E/CN.4/1999/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/45, chap. II, sect. A.

[455] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Gambia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nigeria, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo and Tunisia.

[456] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Reaffirming that all peoples have the right to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development,

Reaffirming also that the subjection of peoples to alien subjugation, domination and exploitation constitutes a denial of fundamental rights, is contrary to the Charter and is an impediment to the promotion of world peace and cooperation,

Recalling that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[457] can be fully realized,

Reaffirming that there is a close relationship between disarmament and development and that progress in the field of disarmament would considerably promote progress in the field of development and that resources released through disarmament measures should be devoted to the economic and social development and well-being of all peoples, in particular those of the developing countries,

Convinced of the aim of the creation of conditions of stability and well-being which are necessary for peaceful and friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples,

Convinced also that life without war is the primary international prerequisite for the material well-being, development and progress of countries and for the full implementation of the rights and fundamental human freedoms proclaimed by the United Nations,

1. *Reaffirms* the solemn proclamation that the peoples of our planet have a sacred right to peace;

2. *Solemnly declares* that the preservation of the right of peoples to peace and the promotion of its implementation constitute a fundamental obligation of each State;

3. *Emphasizes* that ensuring the exercise of the right of peoples to peace demands that the policies of States be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war, particularly nuclear war, the renunciation of the use or threat of use of force in international relations and the settlement of international disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations;

4. *Affirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

5. *Urges* the international community to devote part of the resources made available by the implementation of disarmament and arms limitation agreements to economic and social development, with a view to reducing the ever-widening gap between developed and developing countries, and to promote the realization of all human rights for all;

6. *Urges* all States to refrain from using weapons with indiscriminate effects on human health, the environment and economic and social well-being;

7. *Expresses concern* about the real danger of the weaponization of outer space, and calls upon all States to contribute actively to the objective of the peaceful use of outer space and of the prevention of an arms race in outer space;

8. *Urges* all States to refrain from taking measures which encourage the resurgence of a new arms race, bearing in mind all the resulting predictable consequences for global peace and security, for development and for the full realization of all human rights for all;

9. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question of the promotion of the right of peoples to peace at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/217

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[458] by a recorded vote of 114 to 54, with 15 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo,

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[457] Resolution 217 A (III).

[458] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Angola, Belarus, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Congo, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Fiji, Guatemala, Latvia, Madagascar, Nauru, Peru, Philippines, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Thailand, Tonga, Uruguay

57/217. Respect for the purposes and principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and for fundamental freedoms and in solving international problems of a humanitarian character

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, in accordance with Article 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, all Member States have pledged themselves to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organization for the achievement of the purposes set forth in Article 55, including universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

Recalling also the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Reaffirming that the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms must be considered a priority objective of the United Nations in accordance with its purposes and principles, in particular the purpose of international cooperation, and that, within the framework of these purposes and principles, the promotion and protection of all human rights is a legitimate concern of the international community,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples to an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

Recognizing that the international community should devise ways and means to remove current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world, and should continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations and that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, the promotion and protection of such rights and freedoms being the first responsibility of Governments,

Reaffirming also that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

Reaffirming further the various Articles of the Charter setting out the respective powers and functions of the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council, as the paramount framework for the achievement of the purposes of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations under other important instruments of international law, in particular those of international human rights and humanitarian law,

Taking into account that, in accordance with Article 103 of the Charter, in the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the Charter shall prevail,

Recalling all its previous resolutions on the question, including its resolution 56/152 of 19 December 2001,

1. *Reiterates* the solemn commitment of all States to enhance international cooperation in the field of human rights and in the solution to international problems of a humanitarian character in full compliance with the Charter of the United Nations, inter alia, by the strict observance of all the purposes and principles set forth in Articles 1 and 2 thereof;

2. *Stresses* the vital role of the work of United Nations and regional arrangements, acting consistently with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter, in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as in solving international problems of a humanitarian character, and affirms that all States, in these activities, must fully comply with the principles set forth in Article 2 of the Charter, in particular respecting the sovereign equality of all States and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or acting in any other manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations;

3. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations shall promote universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion;

4. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate fully, through constructive dialogue, to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights for all and in promoting peaceful solutions to international problems of a humanitarian character and, in their actions towards that purpose, to comply strictly with the principles and norms of international law, inter alia, by fully respecting international human rights and humanitarian law;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, organs, bodies and other components of the United Nations system, and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, and to disseminate it as widely as possible;

6. *Decides* to consider this question at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/218

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[459]

57/218. Protection of migrants

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/170 of 19 December 2001,

Reaffirming that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[460] proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race, colour or national origin,

Reaffirming also the provisions concerning migrants adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights,[461] the International Conference on Population and Development,[462] the World Summit for Social Development[463] and the Fourth World Conference on Women,[464]

Welcoming the provisions on the human rights of migrants contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,[465] and expressing its satisfaction about the important recommendations made for the development of international and national strategies for the protection of migrants and for the design of migration policies that fully respect the human rights of migrants,

Recalling its resolution 40/144 of 13 December 1985, by which it approved the Declaration on the Human Rights of Individuals Who are not Nationals of the Country in which They Live,

Recognizing the positive contributions that migrants frequently make, including through their eventual integration into their host society,

Bearing in mind the situation of vulnerability in which migrants and their families frequently find themselves, owing, inter alia, to their absence from their States of origin and to the difficulties they encounter because of differences of language, custom and culture, as well as the economic and social difficulties and obstacles to the return to their States of origin of migrants who are non-documented or in an irregular situation,

Bearing in mind also the need for a focused and consistent approach towards migrants as a specific vulnerable group, in particular migrant women and children,

Deeply concerned about the manifestations of violence, racism, xenophobia and other forms of discrimination and inhuman and degrading treatment against migrants, especially women and children, in different parts of the world,

Underlining the importance of the creation of conditions that foster greater harmony between migrants and the rest of the society of the States in which they reside, with the aim of eliminating the growing manifestations of racism and xenophobia perpetrated in segments of many societies by individuals or groups against migrants,

Taking note of Advisory Opinion OC-16/99, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights on 1 October 1999, on The Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law, in the case of foreign nationals detained by the authorities of a receiving State,

Encouraged by the increasing interest of the international community in the effective and full protection of the human rights of all migrants, and underlining the need to make further efforts to ensure respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants,

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[459] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Armenia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Guatemala, Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Suriname, Tunisia, Turkey and Uruguay.

[460] Resolution 217 A (III).

[461] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[462] See *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[463] See *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[464] See *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[465] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

Welcoming the fact that a number of States have already ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[466] and reiterating the importance of ensuring the speedy entry into force of those instruments in accordance with resolutions 55/25 of 15 November 2000 and 55/255 of 31 May 2001,

1. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment made in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[467] to take measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of migrants, migrant workers and their families, to eliminate the increasing acts of racism and xenophobia in many societies and to promote greater harmony and tolerance in all societies;

2. *Requests* all Member States, in conformity with their respective constitutional systems, effectively to promote and protect the human rights of all migrants, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[460] and the international instruments to which they are party, which may include the International Covenants on Human Rights,[468] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[469] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[470] the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,[471] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[472] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[473] and other applicable international human rights instruments;

3. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect fully the human rights of migrants, as contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action;[465]

4. *Strongly condemns* all forms of racial discrimination and xenophobia with regard to access to employment, vocational training, housing, schooling, health services and social services, as well as services intended for use by the public, and welcomes the active role played by governmental and non-governmental organizations in combating racism and assisting individual victims of racist acts, including migrant victims;

5. *Requests* all States, in conformity with national legislation, firmly to prosecute cases of violation of labour law with regard to the conditions of work of migrant workers, including those related to, inter alia, their remuneration and the conditions of health and safety at work;

6. *Calls upon* all States to review and, where necessary, revise immigration policies with a view to eliminating all discriminatory practices against migrants and to provide specialized training for government policy-making and law enforcement, immigration and other concerned officials, thus underlining the importance of effective action to create conditions that foster greater harmony and tolerance within societies;

7. *Reiterates* the need for all States parties to protect fully the universally recognized human rights of migrants, especially women and children, regardless of their legal status, and to treat them humanely, in particular with regard to assistance and protection;

8. *Reaffirms emphatically* the duty of States parties to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963[474] to ensure full respect for and observance of the Convention, in particular with regard to the right of foreign nationals, regardless of their immigration status, to communicate with a consular official of their own State in the case of detention, and the obligation of the State in whose territory the detention occurs to inform the foreign national of that right;

9. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of Governments to safeguard and protect the rights of migrants against illegal or violent acts, in particular acts of racial discrimination and crimes perpetrated with racist or xenophobic motivation by individuals or groups, and urges them to reinforce measures in this regard;

10. *Urges* all States to adopt effective measures to put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of migrants, including by individuals or groups;

11. *Takes note* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants,[475] and requests her to continue taking into account the recommendations contained in the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action in the performance of her mandate, tasks and duties;

12. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to enact domestic criminal legislation to combat the international trafficking of migrants, which should take into account, in particular, trafficking that endangers the lives of migrants or includes different forms of servitude or exploitation, such as any form of debt bondage or sexual or labour exploitation, and to strengthen international cooperation to combat such trafficking;

13. *Encourages* States to consider participating in international and regional dialogues on migration that include countries of origin and destination, as well as countries of transit, and invites them to consider negotiating bilateral and regional agreements on migrant workers in the framework of applicable

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[466] Resolution 55/25, annexes I–III, and resolution 55/255, annex.

[467] See resolution 55/2.

[468] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[469] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[470] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[471] Resolution 45/158, annex.

[472] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[473] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[474] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

[475] See A/57/292.

human rights law and designing and implementing programmes with States of other regions to protect the rights of migrants;

14. *Encourages* all Governments to remove obstacles that may prevent the safe, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, in conformity with applicable legislation, and to consider, as appropriate, measures to solve other problems that may impede such transfers;

15. *Welcomes* immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious and tolerant environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

16. *Calls upon* all States to protect the human rights of migrant children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the children and the importance of reuniting them with their parents, when possible and appropriate, are the paramount consideration, and encourages the relevant United Nations bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, to pay special attention to the conditions of migrant children in all States and, where necessary, to put forward recommendations for strengthening their protection;

17. *Welcomes* the proclamation of 18 December as International Migrants Day and the invitation to Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to observe it through, inter alia, the dissemination of information on the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants and on their economic, social and cultural contributions to their host and home countries, the sharing of experience and the design of actions to ensure their protection;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms", and requests the Special Rapporteur to submit to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session an interim report on the fulfilment of her mandate.

RESOLUTION 57/219

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[476]

57/219. Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the fundamental importance, including in response to terrorism and the fear of terrorism, of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law,

Recalling that States are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

Recalling also the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council on measures to eliminate international terrorism,

Recalling further its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993 and, inter alia, the responsibility of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to promote and protect the effective enjoyment of all human rights,

Reiterating paragraph 17 of section I of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[477] which states that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening territorial integrity, security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the necessary steps to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

Noting its resolution 56/160 of 19 December 2001 and noting also Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/35 of 22 April 2002,[478] on human rights and terrorism,

Reaffirming its unequivocal condemnation of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism, in all their forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its commitment to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

Stressing that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms recognized in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[479] without distinction of any kind, including on the grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

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[476] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Liechtenstein, Mexico, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname, Switzerland and Uruguay.

[477] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[478] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[479] Resolution 217 A (III).

Recalling that, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[480] certain rights are recognized as non-derogable in any circumstances and that any measures derogating from the provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, and underlining the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations,

1. *Affirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

2. *Encourages* States, while countering terrorism, to take into account relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on human rights, and encourages them to consider the recommendations of the special procedures and mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights and the relevant comments and views of United Nations human rights treaty bodies;

3. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, making use of existing mechanisms:

(*a*) To examine the question of the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, taking into account reliable information from all sources;

(*b*) To make general recommendations concerning the obligation of States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms while taking actions to counter terrorism;

(*c*) To provide assistance and advice to States, upon their request, on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, as well as to relevant United Nations bodies;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/220

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[481]

57/220. Hostage-taking

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also its relevant resolutions and Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[482] which guarantees the right to life, liberty and security of person, freedom from torture or degrading treatment, freedom of movement and protection from arbitrary detention,

Recalling also the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted on 25 June 1993 by the World Conference on Human Rights,[483]

Taking into account the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 34/146 of 17 December 1979, which recognizes that everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person and that the taking of hostages is an offence of grave concern to the international community, as well as the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 3166 (XXVIII) of 14 December 1973,

Bearing in mind the relevant Security Council resolutions condemning all cases of hostage-taking, in particular resolution 1440 (2002) of 24 October 2002,

Recalling all relevant resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the subject,

Concerned that, despite the efforts of the international community, acts of hostage-taking in different forms and manifestations, inter alia, those committed by terrorists and armed groups, continue to take place and have even increased in many regions of the world,

Appealing for the humanitarian action of humanitarian organizations, in particular the International Committee of the Red Cross and its delegates, to be respected, in accordance with the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[484] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[485]

Recognizing that hostage-taking calls for resolute, firm and concerted efforts on the part of the international community in order, in strict conformity with international human rights standards, to bring such abhorrent practices to an end,

1. *Reaffirms* that hostage-taking, wherever and by whomever committed, is a serious offence aimed at the destruction of human rights and is, under any circumstances, unjustifiable;

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[480] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[481] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, China, Cuba, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Nicaragua, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine.

[482] Resolution 217 A (III).

[483] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[484] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[485] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

2. *Condemns* all acts of hostage-taking, anywhere in the world;

3. *Demands* that all hostages be released immediately and without any preconditions;

4. *Calls upon* States to take all necessary measures, in accordance with relevant provisions of international law and international human rights standards, to prevent, combat and punish acts of hostage-taking, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

RESOLUTION 57/221

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[486]

57/221. Strengthening of the rule of law

The General Assembly,

Recalling that, by adopting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[487] fifty-four years ago, Member States pledged themselves to achieve, in cooperation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Firmly convinced that the rule of law is an essential factor in the protection of human rights, as stressed in the Declaration, and should continue to attract the attention of the international community,

Convinced that, through their own national legal and judicial systems, States must provide appropriate civil, criminal and administrative remedies for violations of human rights,

Recognizing the importance of the role that can be played by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in supporting national efforts to strengthen the institutions of the rule of law,

Bearing in mind that, in its resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, the General Assembly entrusted the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with, inter alia, providing advisory services and technical and financial assistance in the field of human rights, enhancing international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights and coordinating human rights activities throughout the United Nations system,

Recalling the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, that a comprehensive programme should be established within the United Nations with a view to helping States in the task of building and strengthening adequate national structures that have a direct impact on the overall observance of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law,[488]

Recalling also its resolutions 53/142 of 9 December 1998 and 55/99 of 4 December 2000,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;[489]

2. *Also welcomes* the efforts of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to make the promotion of the rule of law a priority in its technical cooperation programmes;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the increasing number of Member States seeking assistance in strengthening and consolidating the rule of law, which indicates the growing awareness of its importance, and the support provided to these States through the technical cooperation programme of the Office of the High Commissioner, as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General;

4. *Praises* the efforts made by the Office of the High Commissioner to accomplish its ever-increasing tasks, in a wide range of areas, with the limited financial and personnel resources at its disposal;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* about the scarcity of means at the disposal of the Office of the High Commissioner for the fulfilment of its tasks;

6. *Notes with concern* that the United Nations Programme of Advisory Services and Technical Assistance in

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[486] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[487] Resolution 217 A (III).

[488] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. II, para. 69.

[489] A/57/275.

the Field of Human Rights does not have sufficient funds to provide any substantial financial assistance to national projects that have a direct impact on the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law in countries that are committed to those ends but are lacking the necessary means and resources;

7. *Welcomes* the deepening of the ongoing cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner and other relevant bodies and programmes of the United Nations system, with a view to enhancing the system-wide coordination of assistance in human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and in this context notes the cooperation between the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the High Commissioner in providing technical assistance, at the request of States, in the promotion of the rule of law;

8. *Also welcomes* the assistance of the Office of the High Commissioner in the design of human rights components of United Nations peace operations and in providing advice once they are formed, including in the field of the rule of law;

9. *Reaffirms* that the Office of the High Commissioner remains the focal point for coordinating system-wide attention for human rights, democracy and the rule of law;

10. *Encourages* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue the dialogue between his Office and other organs and agencies of the United Nations system, taking into account the need to explore new synergies with a view to obtaining increased financial assistance for human rights and the rule of law and to promoting inter-agency coordination, funding and allocation of responsibilities in order to improve efficiency and complementarity of action concerning, inter alia, assistance to States in strengthening the rule of law;

11. *Also encourages* the High Commissioner to continue to explore the possibility of further contact with and support from the international financial institutions, acting within their mandates, with a view to obtaining the technical and financial means to strengthen the capacity of his Office to provide assistance to national projects aimed at the realization of human rights and the maintenance of the rule of law;

12. *Requests* the High Commissioner to continue to accord high priority to the technical cooperation activities undertaken by his Office with regard to the rule of law and to continue to act as a catalyst in the system by, inter alia, helping other United Nations agencies and programmes, within their respective mandates, to include in their work, as appropriate, attention to institution-building in the area of the rule of law;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and the above-mentioned recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 57/222

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[490] by a recorded vote of 122 to 55, with 1 abstention, as follows:

In favour: Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia

Abstaining: Kazakhstan

57/222. Human rights and unilateral coercive measures

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/103 of 12 December 1996, 52/120 of 12 December 1997, 53/141 of 9 December 1998, 54/172 of 17 December 1999 and 55/110 of 4 December 2000, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/11 of 9 April 1998,[491]

Reaffirming the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

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[490] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

[491] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of the report submitted by the Secretary-General,[492] pursuant to Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/21 of 23 April 1999,[493] and the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 52/120[494] and 55/110,[495]

Recognizing the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and, in this regard, reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

Recalling that the World Conference on Human Rights, held at Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, called upon States to refrain from any unilateral coercive measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights,[496]

Bearing in mind all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,[497] the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,[498] the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996,[499] and their five-year reviews,

Expressing its concern about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures in the field of international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

Expressing its grave concern that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women and children, including adolescents,

Deeply concerned that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly and recent major United Nations conferences and contrary to general international law and the Charter of the United Nations, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

Bearing in mind all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

Noting the continuing efforts of the Open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Commission on Human Rights, and reaffirming in particular its criteria according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,[500]

1. *Urges* all States to refrain from adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations, in particular those of a coercive nature with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[501] and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Also urges* all States to take steps to avoid and to refrain from adopting any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for their health and well-being and their right to food, medical care and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

3. *Invites* all States to consider adopting administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

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[492] E/CN.4/2000/46 and Add.1.

[493] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1999, Supplement No. 3* (E/1999/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[494] A/53/293 and Add.1.

[495] A/56/207 and Add.1.

[496] See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 31.

[497] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[498] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[499] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3–14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[500] Resolution 41/128, annex.

[501] Resolution 217 A (III).

4. *Rejects* unilateral coercive measures with all their extraterritorial effects as tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, because of their negative effects on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women and the elderly;

5. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are party by revoking such measures at the earliest time possible;

6. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

7. *Urges* the Commission on Human Rights to take fully into account the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures, including the enactment of national laws and their extraterritorial application, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

8. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging his functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in his annual report to the General Assembly;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States, to continue to collect their views and information on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on their populations and to submit an analytical report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, highlighting the practical and preventive measures in this respect;

10. *Decides* to examine this question on a priority basis at its fifty-eighth session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms".

RESOLUTION 57/223

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[502] by a recorded vote of 133 to 4, with 47 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Australia, Marshall Islands, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia

57/223. The right to development

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, as well as to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

Recalling that the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Recalling also all its previous resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998 on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development as set out in the Declaration on the Right to Development,[503]

Reaffirming the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United

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[502] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by Croatia, and South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

[503] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3* (E/1998/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,[504]

Stressing the need for undertaking urgent measures to implement the goals and targets set in all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions, including those of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, which are paramount in the process of the realization of the right to development,

Stressing also that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[505] reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of all human rights, and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

Reaffirming the solemn commitment expressed at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights, including the right to development,[506]

Noting the outcomes of the fourth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization, held at Doha from 9 to 14 November 2001,[507] and the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[508]

Taking note with appreciation of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/69 of 25 April 2002,[509] in which the Commission endorsed the agreed conclusions of the Working Group on the Right to Development, adopted by consensus during the Working Group's session, held from 25 February to 8 March 2002,[510]

1. *Endorses* the agreed conclusions of the Working Group on the Right to Development,[510] as adopted by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2002/69,[509] which constitute a solid foundation for further initiatives towards the promotion and the realization of the right to development;

2. *Takes note* of the postponement of the session of the Working Group on the Right to Development, owing to the non-availability of the report on the international development issues, and calls upon the independent expert on the right to development to submit this outstanding report in time for the next session of the Working Group, scheduled to be held from 3 to 14 February 2003;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles, which underpin the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the international level;

4. *Underlines* the importance of further research and analytical work undertaken by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the above-mentioned core principles, and invites the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in consultation with the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the World Trade Organization and all relevant international organizations and institutions, to submit a report on the importance and application of the principle of equity as a matter of priority, at both the national and the international level, taking fully into account the conclusions of the Working Group on the Right to Development;

5. *Invites*, in the above context, the High Commissioner to solicit the support and cooperation of these organizations in the preparation of the requisite report for submission to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session;

6. *Reaffirms* the commitments to implement the goals and targets set in all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions and those undertaken at the Millennium Assembly, in particular, those relating to the realization of the right to development;

7. *Recognizes* that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in all the major United Nations conferences, summits and special sessions, including those of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[504]

8. *Reaffirms* the need for an international environment which is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

9. *Reaffirms also* that States have the primary responsibility for the creation of national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development and that they are committed to cooperating with each other to that end;

10. *Reaffirms further* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,[505] which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and which also places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development

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[504] See resolution 55/2.

[505] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[506] See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

[507] See A/C.2/56/7.

[508] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[509] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[510] See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1.

facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

11. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and the international level, recognizes that the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, rests with States, as established in article 3 of the Declaration on the Right to Development, and reaffirms the inextricable link between the two;

12. *Underlines* the importance of the continuation of the discussion, within the Working Group on the Right to Development, on the question of a suitable permanent follow-up mechanism to monitor the realization of the right to development;

13. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, and stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable;

14. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide and that developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process, and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so, to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help meet development goals and targets;

16. *Emphasizes* the international economic and financial issues that deserve particular attention by the Working Group on the Right to Development, such as international trade, access to technology, good governance and equity at the international level, and the debt burden, in order to consider and evaluate their impact on the enjoyment of human rights and, in this context, looks forward to a preliminary study, as requested by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 2001/9 of 18 April 2001,[511] for consideration by the Working Group at its next session;

17. *Recognizes* that historical injustices have undeniably contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparities, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries;

18. *Recognizes also* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

19. *Considers* that a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation; implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns; review of special and differential-treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and operational; avoidance of new forms of protectionism; and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries are important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

20. *Recognizes* that poverty eradication is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development, stresses that poverty is a multifaceted problem that requires a multifaceted approach in addressing economic, political, social, environmental and institutional dimensions at all levels, especially in the context of the United Nations Millennium development goal of halving, by the year 2015, the proportion of the world's people whose income is less than one dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, underlines the fact that the international community is far from meeting the target of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, and emphasizes the principle of international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries;

21. *Recognizes also* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development and, in this regard, stresses the need to broaden the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and to fill organizational gaps, as well as strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

22. *Stresses* that the basic responsibility for the realization of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

23. *Recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by

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[511] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2001, Supplement No. 3* (E/2001/23), chap. II, sect. A.

States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

24. *Recognizes also* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between women's education and their equal participation in the civil, political, economic, social and cultural activities of the community, and the promotion of the right to development;

25. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, boys and girls alike, in all policies and programmes, and for ensuring protection and promotion of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

26. *Recognizes* that measures must be taken at the national and international levels to fight the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) and other communicable diseases, taking into account ongoing efforts and programmes;

27. *Recognizes also* the need at the national level for strong partnerships with civil society organizations, including the private sector, in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for good corporate governance;

28. *Expresses deep concern and anxiety* about growing corporate corruption, in particular the recent disturbing incidents which have a negative impact on the full enjoyment of human rights and undermine the process of the realization of the right to development;

29. *Emphasizes* the urgent need for taking concrete measures, including the repatriation of illegally acquired assets and funds to the countries of origin, to fight against all forms of corruption at the national and international levels, and stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework;

30. *Supports and appreciates* the recently adopted New Partnership for Africa's Development[512] as a development framework and a practical example that could be explored for the promotion of a rights-based approach to development;

31. *Emphasizes* the need to improve further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights towards the promotion and realization of the right to development, including ensuring effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and better servicing of and support for the Working Group on the Right to Development;

32. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to assist effectively in implementing the recommendations contained in the agreed conclusions of the Working Group on the Right to Development, including in particular ensuring the meaningful participation and contribution of all relevant international organizations and United Nations specialized agencies, programmes and funds in the next session of the Working Group;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international development and financial institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions and non-governmental organizations, and to submit a comprehensive report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

34. *Decides* to continue at its fifty-eighth session consideration of the issue of the right to development, as a matter of priority.

RESOLUTION 57/224

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[513]

57/224. Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its commitment to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[514] for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

Recalling its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000[515] and its resolution 56/149 of 19 December 2001, and taking note of Commission on Human

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[512] A/57/304, annex.

[513] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by South Africa (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries and China).

[514] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[515] See resolution 55/2.

Rights resolution 2002/86 of 26 April 2002 on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,[516]

Recalling also the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held at Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, and its role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

Recognizing that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Reaffirming that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field, and recalling its decision to proclaim the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, as well as its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001, entitled "Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations",

Emphasizing the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

Underlining the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all the activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, entitled "Promotion of dialogue on human rights issues", by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,[517]

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Also reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of several conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

3. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the Untied Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

6. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

7. *Calls upon* Member States, specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

8. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

9. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/225

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[518]

57/225. Situation of human rights in Cambodia

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/169 of 19 December 2001, Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/89 of 26 April 2002[519] and previous relevant resolutions,

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[516] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[517] See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

[518] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Canada, Japan, Liechtenstein, New Zealand and Norway.

[519] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Recognizing that the tragic history of Cambodia requires special measures to ensure the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and the non-return to the policies and practices of the past, as stipulated in the Agreement on a Comprehensive Political Settlement of the Cambodia Conflict, signed in Paris on 23 October 1991,[520]

Reaffirming that the most serious human rights violations in Cambodia in recent history have been committed by the Khmer Rouge, and acknowledging that the final collapse of the Khmer Rouge and the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia have provided the basis for the restoration of peace and stability with the aim of achieving national reconciliation in Cambodia and the investigation and prosecution of the leaders of the Khmer Rouge,

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Support of and cooperation with the United Nations

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through his Special Representative for human rights in Cambodia, in collaboration with the office in Cambodia of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to assist the Government of Cambodia in ensuring the protection of the human rights of all people in Cambodia and to ensure adequate resources for the continued functioning of the office and to enable the Special Representative to continue to fulfil his tasks expeditiously;

2. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the role and achievements of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in assisting the Government and people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights[521] and the use of the United Nations Trust Fund for a Human Rights Education Programme in Cambodia to finance the programme of activities of the office, and invites the international community to consider contributing to the Trust Fund;

3. *Also welcomes* the report of the Special Representative,[522] encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue its cooperation at all levels of Government, supports the appeals of the Government and the Special Representative to increase international assistance to Cambodia and to continue working towards the reduction of poverty, and encourages donor countries and other relevant parties to follow up their pledges made at the Consultative Group Meeting on Cambodia, held at Phnom Penh on 20 and 21 June 2002;

4. *Further welcomes* the signature of the memorandum of understanding in February 2002 by the Government of Cambodia and the Office of the High Commissioner for the extension of the mandate of the office in Cambodia, and encourages the Government to continue to cooperate with the office in their joint efforts to promote human rights;

5. *Commends* the vital role played by non-governmental organizations in Cambodia, inter alia, in the development of civil society, and encourages the Government of Cambodia to continue to ensure the protection of those human rights organizations and their members and to continue to work closely and cooperatively with them;

II

Administrative, legislative and judicial reform

1. *Acknowledges* the ratification by Cambodia of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[523]

2. *Notes with concern* the continued problems related to the rule of law and the functioning of the judiciary resulting from, inter alia, corruption and interference by the executive with the independence of the judiciary, welcomes the establishment of the Council of Legal and Judicial Reform, and urges the Government as a matter of priority to increase its budgetary allocation to the judiciary and take the necessary measures to ensure the independence, impartiality and effectiveness of the Supreme Council of the Magistracy and the judicial system as a whole;

3. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to expedite the adoption of the laws and codes that are essential components of the basic legal framework, including the draft statute on magistrates, a penal code, a code of criminal procedure, a new civil code and a code of civil procedure and to enhance the training of judges and lawyers, and welcomes the opening of the Royal School for Training Judges and Prosecutors and the Centre for Lawyer Training and Professional Improvement of the Bar Association of the Kingdom of Cambodia;

4. *Also urges* the Government of Cambodia to strengthen its efforts to tackle the problems related to land, and notes with concern the remaining problems of land grabbing, forced evictions and further displacement;

5. *Encourages* further efforts by the Government of Cambodia to implement expeditiously and effectively its reform programme, including the Governance Action Plan and military reforms, inter alia, the demobilization programme;

6. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Government of Cambodia to eradicate anti-personnel landmines and to reduce the number of small arms in Cambodia, and encourages the continuing efforts of the Government and the international community to tackle these issues;

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[520] A/46/608-S/23177.

[521] A/57/277.

[522] A/57/230.

[523] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

7. *Expresses serious concern* that the situation of impunity still exists in Cambodia, recognizes the commitment and efforts of the Government of Cambodia to respond to this problem, calls upon the Government, as a matter of critical priority, to increase its efforts to investigate urgently and to prosecute, in accordance with due process of law and international human rights standards, all those who have perpetrated serious crimes, including violations of human rights;

8. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the Government of Cambodia in conducting polling for the commune elections in February 2002, encourages the Government to work towards free and fair general elections in July 2003, bearing in mind the serious concerns over acts of intimidation, violence and killings and reports of vote-buying, to investigate fully such acts and to prosecute those responsible, to ensure that similar problems do not occur in connection with the general election and, in particular, to pay close attention to the safety and security of candidates and political activists and to ensure neutrality on the part of State institutions, including an independent national election committee, proper law enforcement and equitable access to all forms of media, including broadcast media, for all parties;

9. *Notes with serious concern* the prison conditions in Cambodia, notes with interest some important efforts to improve the prison system, recommends the continuation of international assistance to improve the material conditions of detention, and calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take further measures to improve the conditions of detention, to provide proper food and health care to prisoners and detainees and to meet the special needs of women and children;

III

Human rights violations and violence

1. *Expresses grave concern* about the continued violations of human rights, including torture, excessive pre-trial detention, violation of labour rights, forced evictions, as well as political violence, police involvement in violence and the apparent lack of protection from mob killings, notes that some progress has been made by the Government of Cambodia in addressing these issues, and urges the Government to take all necessary measures to prevent such violations, including to consider establishing a board of inquiry on the issue of mob killings;

2. *Urges* the Government of Cambodia to combat discrimination in all its manifestations against ethnic minorities and to protect their rights, as well as to meet its obligations as a party to the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[524] inter alia, by seeking technical assistance;

IV

Protection of women and children

1. *Welcomes* the progress made in improving the status of women, including the progress made towards the adoption of the law on prevention of domestic violence and protection of victims of domestic violence, and urges the Government of Cambodia to take further appropriate measures to combat violence against women in all its forms and to take all steps to meet its obligations as a party to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[525] including by seeking technical assistance;

2. *Commends* the Government of Cambodia for its efforts to combat the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS), while remaining concerned about its increasing incidence;

3. *Welcomes* the series of efforts made by the Government of Cambodia to combat human trafficking, requests the Government and the international community to make concerted efforts comprehensively to address these problems and their underlying causes, while noting with serious concern the growing phenomenon of trafficking in, and sexual exploitation of, women and children;

4. *Also welcomes* the ratification by the Government of Cambodia of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;[526]

5. *Notes with serious concern* the problem of child labour in its worst forms, calls upon the Government of Cambodia to take immediate and effective measures to protect children from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous, to interfere with their education or to be harmful to their health, safety or morals, by enforcing Cambodian laws on child labour, the existing Labour Law and anti-trafficking law provisions on behalf of children and prosecuting those who violate these laws, invites the International Labour Organization to continue to extend the necessary assistance in this regard, and encourages the Government to consider ratifying the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182);

6. *Encourages* the efforts of the Government of Cambodia to improve further the health conditions of children and their access to education, to promote free and accessible birth registration and to establish a juvenile justice system;

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[524] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[525] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[526] Resolution 54/263, annex II.

V

Conclusion

1. *Encourages* the international community to assist the Government of Cambodia in its efforts to implement the present resolution;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the role and achievements of the Office of the High Commissioner in assisting the Government and the people of Cambodia in the promotion and protection of human rights and on the recommendations made by the Special Representative on matters within his mandate;

3. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in Cambodia at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/226

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[527] by a recorded vote of 176 to 1, with 7 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: United States of America

Abstaining: Australia, Canada, Fiji, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Palau

57/226. The right to food

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/155 of 19 December 2001, as well as all Commission on Human Rights resolutions in this regard, in particular resolutions 2000/10 of 17 April 2000[528] and 2002/25 of 22 April 2002,[529]

Recalling also the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[530] which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her/his health and well-being, including food,

Recalling further the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[531] in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

Recalling the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,[532]

Bearing in mind the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action,[533]

Reaffirming that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

Recognizing that the problems of hunger and food insecurity have global dimensions and that they are likely to persist and even to increase dramatically in some regions unless urgent, determined and concerted action is taken, given the anticipated increase in the world's population and the stress on natural resources,

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[527] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

[528] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 3* and corrigendum (E/2000/23 and Corr.1), chap. II, sect. A.

[529] Ibid., *2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[530] Resolution 217 A (III).

[531] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[532] *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5–16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

[533] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit, 13–17 November 1996* (WFS 96/REP), part one, appendix.

Reaffirming that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international level, is the essential foundation which will enable States to give adequate priority to food security and poverty eradication,

Reiterating, as did the Rome Declaration as well as the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later,[534] that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations and that endanger food security,

Convinced that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration and the World Food Summit Plan of Action and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

Stressing the importance of reversing the continuing decline of official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger so as to be able fully to develop and maintain their physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers* it intolerable that there are around 840 million undernourished people in the world and that every year 36 million people die, directly or indirectly, as a result of hunger and nutritional deficiencies, most of them women and children, particularly in developing countries, in a world that already produces enough food to feed the whole global population, and regrets that this situation at the same time can generate additional pressures on the environment in ecologically fragile areas;

4. *Welcomes* the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002;[534]

5. *Encourages* all States to take steps with a view to achieving progressively the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to elaborate and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

6. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

7. *Invites* all international financial and developmental institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the necessary funding to realize the aim of halving by the year 2015 the proportion of people who suffer from hunger, as well as the right to food as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security[533] and in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[535]

8. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

9. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Children's Fund entitled *The State of the World's Children, 2002*,[536] and recalls that the nurturing of young children merits the highest priority;

10. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to food,[537] and commends the Special Rapporteur for his valuable work in the promotion of the right to food;

11. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur as established by the Commission on Human Rights in its resolutions 2000/10 and 2002/25;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Special Rapporteur for his effective contribution to the medium-term review of the implementation of the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action[533] through the submission to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of his recommendations on all aspects of the right to food, and his participation in and contribution to the proceedings of that event;

13. *Welcomes* the three expert consultations on the right to food convened by the former High Commissioner and her personal commitment to the promotion and realization of the right to food, and expresses its deep appreciation for the comprehensive report submitted by the former High Commissioner to the World Food Summit: five years later;

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[534] Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *Report of the World Food Summit: five years later, 10–13 June 2002*, part one, appendix; see also A/57/499, annex.

[535] See resolution 55/2.

[536] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.XX.1.

[537] See A/57/356.

14. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, adopted at its one hundred and twenty-third session, to establish an Intergovernmental Working Group as a subsidiary body of the Committee on World Food Security, with the participation of stakeholders, in the context of the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, to elaborate in a period of two years a set of voluntary guidelines to support the efforts of Member States to achieve the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security, and in this regard stresses that the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations will work closely with relevant United Nations bodies, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Special Rapporteur, as well as the two Rome-based food agencies, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the World Food Programme, noting also the invitation of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to other relevant institutions of the United Nations system, treaty bodies and the World Trade Organization to collaborate in assisting the Working Group on the basis of their respective mandates;

15. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to mainstream a gender perspective in the activities relating to his mandate;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner to provide all the necessary human and financial resources for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur;

17. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its General Comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person and is indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights, and is also inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both national and international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;[538]

18. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit a comprehensive report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and an interim report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

19. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies and non-governmental organizations to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his mandate, inter alia, through the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

20. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this matter at its fifty-eighth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/227

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[539] by a recorded vote of 109 to 3, with 71 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Mali, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: Israel, Palau, United States of America

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Yugoslavia

57/227. Respect for the right to universal freedom of travel and the vital importance of family reunification

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all human rights and fundamental freedoms are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

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[538] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V, para. 4.

[539] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bolivia, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador and Honduras.

Recalling the provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[540] as well as article 12 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[541]

Stressing that, as stated in the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,[542] family reunification of documented migrants is an important factor in international migration and that remittances by documented migrants to their countries of origin often constitute a very important source of foreign exchange and are instrumental in improving the well-being of relatives left behind,

Recalling its resolution 55/100 of 4 December 2000,

1. *Once again calls upon* all States to guarantee the universally recognized freedom of travel to all foreign nationals legally residing in their territory;

2. *Reaffirms* that all Governments, in particular those of receiving countries, must recognize the vital importance of family reunification and promote its incorporation into national legislation in order to ensure protection of the unity of families of documented migrants;

3. *Calls upon* all States to allow, in conformity with international legislation, the free flow of financial remittances by foreign nationals residing in their territory to their relatives in the country of origin;

4. *Also calls upon* all States to refrain from enacting, and to repeal if it already exists, legislation intended as a coercive measure that discriminates against individuals or groups of legal migrants by adversely affecting family reunification and the right to send financial remittances to relatives in the country of origin;

5. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this question at its fifty-ninth session under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/228

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127),[543] by a recorded vote of 150 to none, with 30 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Against: None

Abstaining: Belarus, Belgium, Botswana, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Kenya, Latvia, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

57/228. Khmer Rouge trials

The General Assembly,

Recalling that the serious violations of Cambodian and international law during the period of Democratic Kampuchea from 1975 to 1979 continue to be matters of vitally important concern to the international community as a whole,

Recognizing the legitimate concern of the Government and the people of Cambodia in the pursuit of justice and national reconciliation, stability, peace and security,

Recognizing also that the accountability of individual perpetrators of grave human rights violations is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations and a key factor in ensuring a fair and equitable justice system and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Conscious that the opportunity to bring those responsible to justice may soon be lost,

Recalling the request made in June 1997 by the Cambodian authorities for assistance in responding to past serious violations of Cambodian and international law,

Recalling also its resolution 56/169 of 19 December 2001, taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/89 of 26 April 2002,[544] and recalling further previous relevant resolutions,

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[540] Resolution 217 A (III).

[541] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[542] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[543] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by France and Japan.

[544] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Welcoming the efforts of, and the substantial progress made by, the Secretary-General and the Government of Cambodia towards the establishment of Extraordinary Chambers within the existing court structure of Cambodia (hereinafter referred to as Extraordinary Chambers), with international assistance, for the prosecution of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea,

Welcoming in particular the promulgation of the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the Prosecution of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea, and noting with appreciation the general provisions and competence of the Law and its provision for a role for the United Nations,

Noting the statements of the Secretary-General on 8 February and 20 August 2002 concerning negotiations between the Secretary-General and the Government of Cambodia on the establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Welcoming the subsequent discussions between the Secretary-General and the Government of Cambodia on the establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers,

Welcoming also the Joint Communiqué of the thirty-fifth Ministerial Meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations, held in Brunei Darussalam on 29 and 30 July 2002, which, inter alia, expressed support for the continued efforts of the Government of Cambodia to bring the senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and those most responsible for serious crimes committed to trial in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law and recognized the need for the Government of Cambodia and the United Nations to cooperate in this regard,

Desiring that the international community continue to respond positively in assisting efforts to investigate the tragic history of Cambodia, including responsibility for past international crimes such as acts of genocide and crimes against humanity committed during the regime of Democratic Kampuchea,

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General to resume negotiations, without delay, to conclude an agreement with the Government of Cambodia, based on previous negotiations on the establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers consistent with the provisions of the present resolution, so that the Extraordinary Chambers may begin to function promptly;

2. *Recommends* that the Extraordinary Chambers should have subject-matter jurisdiction consistent with that set forth in the Law on the Establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia for the Prosecution of Crimes Committed during the Period of Democratic Kampuchea;

3. *Recommends also* that the Extraordinary Chambers should have personal jurisdiction over the senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the crimes referred to in paragraph 2 above;

4. *Emphasizes* that the arrangements for the establishment of Extraordinary Chambers, as devised in particular by the Royal Government of Cambodia, should:

(*a*) Ensure that the Extraordinary Chambers exercise their jurisdiction in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, as set out in articles 14 and 15 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[545]

(*b*) Include arrangements for an appellate chamber;

5. *Also emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the impartiality, independence and credibility of the process, in particular with regard to the status and work of the judges and prosecutors;

6. *Appeals* to the Government of Cambodia to ensure that persons referred to in paragraph 3 above are brought to trial in accordance with international standards of justice, fairness and due process of law, as referred to in paragraph 4 above, and notes the assurances of the Government of Cambodia in this regard;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on his consultations and negotiations with the Government of Cambodia concerning the establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers, no later than ninety days from the date of adoption of the resolution;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, if necessary, to send a team of experts to Cambodia as may be required for the preparation of his report;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report recommendations for the efficient and cost-effective operation of the Extraordinary Chambers, including the amount of voluntary contributions of funds, equipment and services to the Extraordinary Chambers, inter alia, through the offer of expert personnel, that may be needed from States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations;

10. *Appeals* to the international community to provide personnel and financial and other assistance to permit the early establishment and the sustained operation of the Extraordinary Chambers.

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[545] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

RESOLUTION 57/229

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.2 and Corr.1–3, para. 127)[546]

57/229. Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/168 of 19 December 2001, by which it established the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/61 of 25 April 2002 on the human rights of persons with disabilities[547] and Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/7 of 24 July 2002 on a comprehensive and integral international convention to promote and protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities and Council resolution 2002/26 of 24 July 2002 on the further promotion of equalization of opportunities by, for and with persons with disabilities and protection of their human rights,

Stressing the importance of the active participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee and the important contribution of non-governmental organizations to the promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities,

Underlining the fact that the consideration of proposals for a convention should complement concrete efforts to mainstream further the disability perspective into the implementation of international obligations and into the monitoring mechanisms of the six core United Nations human rights conventions, as well as into the process of implementing and strengthening the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities,[548]

Welcoming the work of national, regional and international meetings of Governments, experts, and non-governmental organizations that contributed to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee,

Reaffirming the need to promote and protect the equal and effective enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by persons with disabilities, aware of the contribution that a convention could make in this regard and thus convinced of the need to continue to consider proposals,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities on its first session;[549]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-first session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session;

3. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee should hold, within existing resources, at least one meeting in 2003 of a duration of ten working days, prior to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Encourages* States to hold meetings or seminars to contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, in cooperation with, as appropriate, the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Rapporteur on disability of the Commission for Social Development, and non-governmental organizations;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States, observer States, relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights treaty bodies and the Special Rapporteur, on proposals for a convention including, inter alia, questions relating to its nature and structure and the elements to be considered, including the work done in the field of social development, human rights and non-discrimination, as well as issues of follow-up and monitoring and the complementarity between a new instrument and existing instruments;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Ad Hoc Committee at its second session a comprehensive report on the views submitted, to be issued at least six weeks before the commencement of the second session;

7. *Invites* the regional commissions and intergovernmental organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as non-governmental organizations, national disability and human rights institutions and independent experts with an interest in the matter, to make available to the Ad Hoc Committee suggestions and possible elements to be considered in proposals for a convention;

8. *Welcomes* the contributions of the Special Rapporteur and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee, and invites them to continue to collaborate with the Ad Hoc Committee and with each other in this regard;

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[546] The draft resolution recommended in the report was submitted in document A/57/357.

[547] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[548] Resolution 48/96, annex.

[549] See A/57/357.

9. *Urges* that further efforts be made to ensure the active participation of non-governmental organizations in the Ad Hoc Committee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/510 of 23 July 2002 and with the decision of the Ad Hoc Committee on the modalities for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;[550]

10. *Also urges* that efforts be made to ensure that accessibility, with reasonable accommodation as regards facilities and documentation, is improved for all persons with disabilities, in accordance with General Assembly decision 56/474 of 23 July 2002;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the facilities necessary for the performance of its work and, in this context, invites the Secretary-General to reallocate resources in order to allow the United Nations Programme on Disability to provide the necessary support to the Ad Hoc Committee;

12. *Encourages* Member States to involve persons with disabilities, representatives of disability organizations and experts in the preparatory processes contributing to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee;

13. *Also encourages* Member States to include persons with disabilities and/or other experts in the field in their delegations to the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee;

14. *Decides* to establish a voluntary fund to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts from developing countries, in particular from the least developed countries, and invites Governments, civil society and the private sector to contribute to the voluntary fund;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit a comprehensive report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/230

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.3, para. 46),[551] by a recorded vote of 80 to 62, with 33 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

Against: Algeria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe

Abstaining: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Dominica, Eritrea, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mongolia, Philippines, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Vanuatu, Zambia

57/230. Situation of human rights in the Sudan

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and the duty to fulfil the obligations that they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Mindful that the Sudan is a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[552] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[552] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[553] the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights[554] and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[555]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the situation of human rights in the Sudan, and taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/16 of 19 April 2002,[556]

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1372 (2001) of 28 September 2001,

Noting with appreciation the recent developments in the peace talks led by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and expressing its firm belief that human rights should become a key element in the peace talks in view of the link between sustainable peace and respect for human rights,

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[550] Ibid., para. 10.

[551] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[552] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[553] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[554] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363.

[555] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[556] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The Machakos Protocol of 20 July 2002 and the announcement that both parties have agreed to a cessation of hostilities in all areas following the signature of the memorandum of understanding between the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement on the resumption of negotiations on peace in the Sudan, the agreement on procedures for the unimpeded access of humanitarian aid signed by the Government of the Sudan, the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement and the United Nations, and the two memorandums signed at the conclusion of the second round of peace talks on 18 November 2002;

(*b*) The extension of the ceasefire agreement in the Nuba Mountains, signed on 19 January 2002 by the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement, as well as the Khartoum agreement to protect civilians and civilian facilities from military attacks, signed by the two parties on 10 March 2002;

(*c*) The commitment of the Government of the Sudan to facilitate the establishment of an independent national institution on human rights;

(*d*) The recent visit of the Secretary-General to the Sudan;

(*e*) The interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan[557] and the cooperation extended by the Government to the Special Rapporteur during his visits to the Sudan in February, March and October 2002;

(*f*) The cooperation extended by the Government of the Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to other United Nations mandate-holders in the field of human rights, as well as their recent cooperation with the United Nations and other humanitarian agencies, to mitigate the effects of war on civilians, and emphasizes the need to adhere to the principle of full, safe and unhindered access and to strengthen the support provided to such agencies;

(*g*) The commitment of the Government of the Sudan to embark on a programme of civic education in democracy and to create an inter-party liaison mechanism in order to foster democratization;

(*h*) The establishment by the Government of the Sudan of an advisory council for Christians and its commitment to appoint Christians to senior executive positions in the Ministry for Religious Affairs and to promote inter-religious dialogue;

(*i*) Decree 14/2002 of 26 January 2002 of the President of the Sudan, by which the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children was re-established and further empowered, the Committee's facilitation of flights for the repatriation of abducted children and the intention of the Government to hold tribal conferences in the Kordofan and Darfur regions, as well as the facilitation and support provided by the Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to the International Eminent Persons Group, which investigated slavery, abduction and forced servitude in the Sudan during its visit in April and May 2002, the report issued by the Group on 22 May 2002[558] and the commitment of the Government and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to consider implementing the recommendations of the Group;

(*j*) The signing of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[559]

2. *Expresses its deep concern* at:

(*a*) The impact of the ongoing armed conflict on the situation of human rights and its adverse effects on the civilian population, in particular women, children and internally displaced persons, and at the continuing serious violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law by all parties to the conflict;

(*b*) The decision of the Government of the Sudan to maintain the state of emergency until the end of 2002;

(*c*) The occurrence of restrictions on freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief and on freedom of association, assembly, opinion and expression;

(*d*) The cases of torture and ill-treatment of civilians, extrajudicial summary or arbitrary execution, arbitrary arrest, detention without trial and corporal punishment in its cruellest forms;

(*e*) The negative role of undisciplined southern militias, armed and supported by all parties to the conflict, which are responsible for killings, torture, kidnappings, rape, the burning of villages, the destruction of crops and the theft of livestock;

(*f*) The forced conscription and displacement, enforced or involuntary disappearances and other acts of intimidation and harassment directed against the population;

(*g*) The violation of the rights of women, including discrimination against women and girls, the harassment of women by security forces and the serious human rights abuses, such as killings, rape, abduction and female genital mutilation;

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[557] See A/57/326.

[558] Slavery, Abduction and Forced Servitude in Sudan: report of the International Eminent Persons Group, 22 May 2002, United States Department of State.

[559] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

(*h*) The violations of the rights of the child, including the recruitment and use of children as soldiers and the subjection of children to forced labour, in contravention of human rights and international law;

(*i*) The extensive use of the death penalty, contrary to the obligations assumed by the Government of the Sudan under the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[552] and other human rights instruments, the use of special courts, especially in Darfur, with military personnel appointed as judges and a lack of legal representation, the occurrence of group sentencing and the imposition of the death penalty on persons below 18 years of age at the time of the commission of their crime, contrary to the obligations assumed by the Government of the Sudan under the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[553] all of which raises serious doubts regarding the validity of the legal processes;

(*j*) The abduction of women and children by tribal groups and other militias;

(*k*) The numerous and repeated difficulties encountered by United Nations and humanitarian staff in carrying out their mandate in the Sudan and the conditions imposed on humanitarian organizations, in contravention of humanitarian principles, in particular the denial of access to them, which has had grave consequences for the civilian population affected by the armed conflict and led to the withdrawal of many such organizations prior to the agreement on procedures for unimpeded access of humanitarian aid;

(*l*) The forced displacement of populations in the Sudan as a result of the armed conflict, in particular in areas surrounding the oilfields;

(*m*) The continuation of indiscriminate aerial bombardment of civilian targets and indiscriminate artillery shelling of the civilian population, as well as the use of civilian premises for military purposes;

3. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Sudan:

(*a*) To seize the prospect of peace to ensure continuing progress in the fields of human rights, democratization and the rule of law and create a climate of mutual trust and confidence that will be the basis for a viable peace and facilitate reconciliation;

(*b*) To respect and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, to respect fully international humanitarian law, in particular the need to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian premises, thereby facilitating the voluntary return, repatriation and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes, and to ensure that those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*c*) To adhere to agreements signed within the framework of the Machakos Protocol, to take necessary measures to facilitate the peace negotiations and to work actively towards the establishment of a just and viable peace, based on respect of human rights and the principles of democratization and the rule of law, within the context of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development peace process;

(*d*) To enhance the implementation of the Khartoum agreement to protect civilians and civilian facilities from military attacks, and in particular urges the Government of the Sudan to cease immediately all indiscriminate aerial bombardments of and attacks against the civilian population and civilian installations, and the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to cease immediately the indiscriminate artillery shelling of the civilian population, the use of civilian premises for military purposes, the misappropriation of humanitarian assistance and the diversion of relief supplies, including food, from their civilian recipients;

(*e*) To refrain from undertaking military activities as a demonstration of their willingness to seek a peaceful solution to the long-standing conflict and to adhere to a comprehensive ceasefire as part of a just peace negotiation process;

(*f*) To stop the support provided to and use of tribal militias that commit grave human rights abuses;

(*g*) To continue adhering to the agreement on procedures for unimpeded access of humanitarian aid to secure full, safe and unhindered access to all international agencies and humanitarian organizations in order to facilitate by all possible means the delivery of humanitarian assistance, in conformity with relevant provisions of international humanitarian law, to all civilians in need of protection and assistance and to continue to cooperate with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat and Operation Lifeline Sudan;

(*h*) Not to use or recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers, to continue demobilizing child soldiers, to refrain from the practice of forced conscription and to fulfil the commitments made concerning the protection of children affected by war, including cessation of the use of anti-personnel landmines, attacks on sites at which there is usually a significant presence of children and the abduction and exploitation of children, as well as to ensure access to and the return of displaced and unaccompanied minors and to reunite them with their families;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of the Sudan:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights instruments to which the Sudan is a party, to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to respect its obligations under international humanitarian law;

(*b*) To fulfil its commitments to ratify the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading

Treatment or Punishment,[560] to sign and ratify the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[561] and to consider ratifying the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;[562]

(*c*) To end the state of emergency now that the stated reasons for its imposition have been resolved, namely, through the constitutional amendment allowing the Presidential appointment of governors, and to make further efforts to promote an environment conducive to a genuine process of democratization that reflects the aspirations of the people and ensures their full participation;

(*d*) To end impunity for human rights violations and to try perpetrators in accordance with the rule of law, as well as to strengthen the role of the Advisory Council on Human Rights in the investigation of all reported human rights violations, including acts of torture;

(*e*) To fulfil its commitment to establish an independent national institution on human rights and to create a general legal framework that will facilitate the establishment of organizations in the field of human rights and to further encourage and support the Advisory Council on Human Rights in enhancing the promotion of human rights in the Sudan through its various activities, including its advisory services and advocacy activities;

(*f*) To ensure full respect for freedom of religion and conscience, and in this regard to take measures to end discrimination based on religion;

(*g*) To ensure full respect for freedom of association, assembly, opinion, thought and expression throughout the territory of the Sudan, and to implement fully existing legislation, in particular the Associations and Political Parties Act;

(*h*) To raise the age of criminal responsibility for children in order to take into account the observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child;

(*i*) To continue and to reinforce its efforts to prevent and stop the abduction of women and children that is taking place within the framework of the conflict in southern Sudan;

(*j*) To make concerted efforts to restrain the activities of the Murahaleen and other tribal militias, to stop financing and equipping them and to uphold suspension of the use of the government train to Bahr-el-Ghazal until such time as peace is established;

(*k*) To cease the forced displacement of populations by any means, in particular in areas surrounding the oilfields, to continue its efforts to address effectively the worsening problem of internally displaced persons, including by implementing the commitments made to the Representative of the Secretary-General on internally displaced persons and by ensuring their access to effective protection and assistance;

(*l*) To liberalize the system for maintaining public order;

(*m*) To implement the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners;[563]

(*n*) To ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the obligations assumed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the provisions of United Nations safeguards;

(*o*) To make further efforts to implement the commitment made to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict not to recruit children under the age of 18 as soldiers and to enforce national laws that prevent the recruitment of children in armed conflicts;

5. *Encourages*:

(*a*) The Government of the Sudan to continue its cooperation with the United Nations in the field of human rights through the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its expert in Khartoum entrusted with the task of advising the Government on the development of national capacity to promote and protect human rights;

(*b*) The Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement to allow the people-to-people peace process to develop freely and unhindered and to consider it an important contribution to the peace process;

6. *Calls upon* the international community to expand its support for activities aimed at improving respect for human rights and humanitarian law in the Sudan, in particular those of the Committee for the Eradication of Abduction of Women and Children, to continue assisting national efforts to build up democratic and civil society structures in the Sudan and to consider how to expand the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include a monitoring role;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the situation of human rights in the Sudan at its fifty-eighth session, under

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[560] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[561] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[562] See CD/1478.

[563] See *Human Rights: A Compilation of International Instruments*, volume I (First Part) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.XIV.1 (Vol. I, Part 1)).

the item entitled "Human rights questions", in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights.

RESOLUTION 57/231

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.3, para. 46)[564]

57/231. Situation of human rights in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[565] the International Covenants on Human Rights[566] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in the field,

Aware that Myanmar is a party to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[567] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[568] the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[569] as well as the Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour, 1930 (Convention No. 29) and the Convention concerning Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize, 1948 (Convention No. 87), of the International Labour Organization,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 56/231 of 24 December 2001, and those of the Commission on Human Rights, the most recent of which is resolution 2002/67 of 25 April 2002,[570]

Recalling also resolution I adopted by the International Labour Conference at its eighty-eighth session, on 14 June 2000, concerning the practice of forced or compulsory labour in Myanmar,

Affirming that the will of the people is the basis of the authority of government and that the will of the people of Myanmar was clearly expressed in the elections held in 1990,

Affirming also that the establishment of a genuine democratic government in Myanmar is essential for the realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The preliminary steps taken by the Government of Myanmar towards democracy, in particular the release from house arrest of Aung San Suu Kyi on 6 May 2002 and her subsequent internal freedom of movement, the release of a number of political prisoners and the relaxation of some constraints on some political activities of the National League for Democracy;

(*b*) The appointment by the International Labour Organization of a liaison officer in Myanmar as a first step towards the establishment of its full and effective representation in Myanmar;

(*c*) The visits to Myanmar by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Myanmar during the past year, the visits by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar, and the cooperation extended to them by the Government of Myanmar;

(*d*) The continuing cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross;

(*e*) The dissemination of human rights standards for public officials and some non-governmental organizations and ethnic groups through the convening of a series of human rights workshops;

2. *Notes* the establishment by the Government of Myanmar of a committee on human rights as a precursor to the establishment of a national human rights commission, which would follow the Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights annexed to General Assembly resolution 48/134 of 20 December 1993;

3. *Expresses its grave concern* at:

(*a*) The ongoing systematic violation of the human rights, including civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, of the people of Myanmar;

(*b*) Extrajudicial killings; rapes and other forms of sexual violence carried out by members of the armed forces; torture; renewed instances of political arrests and continuing detentions, including of prisoners who have served their sentences; forced relocation; destruction of livelihoods; forced labour; denial of freedom of assembly, association, expression and movement; discrimination on the basis of religious or ethnic background; wide disrespect for the rule of law and lack of independence of the judiciary; deeply unsatisfactory conditions of detention; systematic use of child soldiers; and violations of the right to an adequate standard of living, in particular food and medical care, and to education;

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[564] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[565] Resolution 217 A (III).

[566] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[567] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[568] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[569] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[570] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

(*c*) The disproportionate suffering of members of ethnic minorities, women and children from such violations;

(*d*) The situation of the large number of internally displaced persons and the flow of refugees to neighbouring countries;

(*e*) The ever-increasing impact of the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) on the population of Myanmar;

4. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar:

(*a*) To fulfil its obligations to restore the independence of the judiciary and due process of law, and to take further steps to reform the system of the administration of justice;

(*b*) To take immediate action to implement fully concrete legislative, executive and administrative measures to eradicate the practice of forced labour and to implement fully the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry established to examine the observance by Myanmar of the International Labour Organization Convention concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (Convention No. 29);

(*c*) To pursue the dialogue with the International Labour Organization with a view to full and effective representation of the Organization in Myanmar;

(*d*) To ensure safe and unhindered access to the United Nations and international humanitarian organizations and to cooperate fully with all sectors of society by means of consultation, especially with the National League for Democracy and other relevant political, ethnic and community-based groups, to ensure the provision of humanitarian assistance and to guarantee that it does reach the most vulnerable groups of the population;

(*e*) To continue to cooperate with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Myanmar and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar;

(*f*) To consider as a matter of high priority becoming a party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[566] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[566] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[571] the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,[572] the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees[573] and the Protocol thereto,[574] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[575] and the International Labour Organization Convention concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999 (Convention No. 182);

(*g*) To pursue through dialogue and peaceful means an end to conflict with all ethnic groups in Myanmar;

5. *Strongly urges* the Government of Myanmar:

(*a*) To restore democracy and implement the results of the 1990 elections, to ensure that the contacts with Aung San Suu Kyi and other leaders of the National League for Democracy move without delay into substantive and structured dialogue towards democratization and national reconciliation and at an early stage to include other political leaders in the talks, including the representatives of the ethnic groups;

(*b*) To end the systematic violations of human rights in Myanmar, to ensure full respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, to end impunity and to investigate and bring to justice any perpetrators of human rights violations, including members of the military and other government agents in all circumstances;

(*c*) To facilitate and cooperate fully with an independent international investigation of charges of rape and other abuse of civilians carried out by members of the armed forces in Shan and other states;

(*d*) To release unconditionally and immediately all political prisoners;

(*e*) To put an immediate end to the recruitment and use of child soldiers and to extend full cooperation to relevant international organizations in order to ensure the demobilization of child soldiers, their return home and their rehabilitation;

(*f*) To lift all restraints on peaceful political activity, including guaranteeing freedom of association and freedom of expression, including freedom of the media;

(*g*) To end the systematic enforced displacement of persons and other causes of refugee flows to neighbouring countries, to provide the necessary protection and assistance to internally displaced persons and to respect the right of refugees to a voluntary, safe and dignified return monitored by appropriate international agencies;

(*h*) To recognize further the gravity of the situation regarding HIV/AIDS and the need to take the necessary action to combat the epidemic, including the effective implementation in Myanmar of the United Nations joint action plan on HIV/AIDS, in cooperation with all relevant political and ethnic groups;

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[571] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[572] Resolution 2106 A (XX), annex.

[573] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 189, No. 2545.

[574] Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

[575] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide his good offices and to pursue his discussions on the situation of human rights and the restoration of democracy with the Government and people of Myanmar, to submit additional reports to the General Assembly during its fifty-seventh session on the progress of those discussions, and to report to the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session and to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to continue the consideration of this question at its fifty-eighth session.

RESOLUTION 57/232

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.3, para. 46),[576] by a recorded vote of 97 to 3, with 77 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Yugoslavia

Against: Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/232. Situation of human rights in Iraq

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[577] the International Covenants on Human Rights[578] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in this field,

Aware that Iraq is a party to the International Covenants on Human Rights, other international human rights instruments and the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war,[579]

Recalling its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which is resolution 56/174 of 19 December 2001, and those of the Commission on Human Rights, the most recent of which is resolution 2002/15 of 19 April 2002,[580]

Recalling also Security Council resolution 686 (1991) of 2 March 1991, in which the Council called upon Iraq to release all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who might still be held in detention, Council resolution 687 (1991) of 3 April 1991, Council resolution 688 (1991) of 5 April 1991, in which the Council demanded an end to repression of the Iraqi civilian population and insisted that Iraq cooperate with humanitarian organizations and that the human rights of all Iraqi citizens be respected, Council resolutions 986 (1995) of 14 April 1995, 1111 (1997) of 4 June 1997, 1129 (1997) of 12 September 1997, 1143 (1997) of 4 December 1997, 1153 (1998) of 20 February 1998, 1175 (1998) of 19 June 1998, 1210 (1998) of 24 November 1998, 1242 (1999) of 21 May 1999, 1266 (1999) of 4 October 1999, 1281 (1999) of 10 December 1999, 1302 (2000) of 8 June 2000, 1330 (2000) of 5 December 2000, 1352 (2001) of 1 June 2001, 1360 (2001) of 3 July 2001 and 1382 (2001) of 29 November 2001, in which the Council authorized States to permit imports of Iraqi oil in order to allow Iraq to purchase humanitarian supplies, Council resolution 1284 (1999) of 17 December 1999, in which the Council, by means of a comprehensive approach to the situation in Iraq, inter alia, removed the ceiling for the allowable import of Iraqi oil in order to increase the amount of revenue available for the purchase of humanitarian supplies, laid down new provisions and procedures designed to improve the implementation of the humanitarian programme and to further achievement in meeting the humanitarian needs of the Iraqi population and reiterated the obligation of Iraq to facilitate the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals referred to in paragraph 30 of Council resolution 687 (1991), and the most recent resolution of the Council, 1409 (2002) of 14 May 2002, in which the Council significantly eased the United Nations sanctions on Iraq,

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[576] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

[577] Resolution 217 A (III).

[578] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[579] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[580] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

Taking note of the concluding observations of the Human Rights Committee,[581] the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,[582] the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[583] the Committee on the Rights of the Child[584] and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women[585] on the most recent reports submitted to them by Iraq, in which these treaty-monitoring bodies point to a wide range of human rights problems and express the view that the Government of Iraq remains bound by its treaty obligations, while pointing to the adverse effect of sanctions on the daily life of the population, in particular women and children,

Reaffirming that it is the responsibility of the Government of Iraq to ensure the well-being of its entire population and the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Deploring all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Iraq, as mentioned in the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq,[586]

Concerned about the lack of procedural and substantive safeguards in the administration of justice in Iraq, including in the application of the death penalty,

Appealing to all concerned to fulfil their mutual obligations in the management of the humanitarian programme referred to in Security Council resolution 986 (1995) and other relevant Council resolutions,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Iraq[586] and the exploratory visit by the Special Rapporteur to Iraq from 11 to 15 February 2002, which could serve as a basis for future cooperation and constructive dialogue;

(*b*) Security Council resolution 1409 (2002), in which all exports to Iraq are allowed except for items which are on the goods review list[587] and which are therefore subject to review by the Sanctions Committee;

2. *Notes* that:

(*a*) The Government of Iraq has responded in writing to some requests for information made by the Special Rapporteur;

(*b*) The Government of Iraq has accepted a second visit by the Special Rapporteur;

3. *Expresses grave concern* that there has been no improvement in the situation of human rights in the country;

4. *Strongly condemns*:

(*a*) The systematic, widespread and extremely grave violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law by the Government of Iraq, resulting in all-pervasive repression and oppression sustained by broad-based discrimination and widespread terror;

(*b*) The suppression of freedom of thought, religion and belief, expression, information, association, assembly and movement through fear of arrest, imprisonment, execution, expulsion, house demolition and other sanctions;

(*c*) The repression faced by any kind of opposition, in particular the harassment and intimidation of and threats against Iraqi opponents living abroad and members of their families;

(*d*) The widespread use of the death penalty in disregard of the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights[578] and the United Nations safeguards;

(*e*) Summary and arbitrary executions, including political killings and the continuing prison cleansing, the use of rape as a political tool, as well as enforced or involuntary disappearances, routinely practised arbitrary arrests and detention and consistent and routine failure to respect due process and the rule of law;

(*f*) Widespread, systematic torture and the maintaining of decrees prescribing cruel and inhuman punishment as a penalty for offences;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Iraq:

(*a*) To abide by its freely undertaken obligations under international human rights instruments and international humanitarian law to respect and ensure the rights of all individuals, irrespective of their origin, ethnicity, gender or religion, within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction;

(*b*) To end all summary and arbitrary executions and the imposition of the death penalty for crimes committed by persons under the age of 18 years, and to ensure that capital punishment will not be imposed for crimes other than the most serious and will not be pronounced in disregard of the obligations it has assumed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the provisions of the United Nations safeguards;

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[581] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 40* (A/53/40), vol. I, paras. 90–111.

[582] Ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 18* (A/54/18), paras. 337–361.

[583] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 2* (E/1998/22), paras. 245–283.

[584] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 41* (A/55/41), paras. 304–333.

[585] Ibid., *Supplement No. 38* (A/55/38), part two, chap. IV, sect. B, paras. 166–210.

[586] See A/57/325.

[587] See S/2002/515, annex.

(*c*) To establish a moratorium on executions;

(*d*) To bring the actions of its military and security forces into conformity with the standards of international law, in particular those of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;

(*e*) To establish the independence of the judiciary and to abrogate all laws granting impunity to specified forces or persons killing or injuring individuals for any purpose beyond the administration of justice under the rule of law as prescribed by international standards;

(*f*) To abolish the functioning of the temporary special courts and to ensure that the rule of law is respected at all times throughout the territory of Iraq in accordance with its freely undertaken obligation under international human rights instruments;

(*g*) To abrogate all decrees that prescribe cruel and inhuman punishment or treatment, including mutilation, and to ensure that torture and cruel punishment and treatment no longer occur;

(*h*) To abrogate all laws and procedures, including Revolution Command Council Decree No. 840 of 4 November 1986, that penalize free expression, and to ensure that the genuine will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of the State;

(*i*) To cooperate fully with the relevant mechanisms of the Commission on Human Rights, in particular its Special Rapporteur, and to ensure his access to Iraq, without preconditions, in order to allow him fully to discharge his mandate, including by allowing access to any person deemed appropriate by the Special Rapporteur;

(*j*) To implement the recommendations of the Special Rapporteur by providing detailed and comprehensive replies to letters relating to allegations of human rights violations transmitted by the Special Rapporteur and by allowing the stationing of human rights monitors throughout Iraq pursuant to the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

(*k*) To ensure the free exercise of political opposition and to prevent the intimidation and repression of political opponents and their families;

(*l*) To respect the rights of all ethnic and religious groups and to cease immediately its continuing repressive practices, including the practice of forced deportation and relocation, aimed at the Iraqi Kurds, Assyrians and Turkmen, and to ensure the personal integrity and freedoms of all citizens, including the Shi'ah population;

(*m*) To cooperate fully with the Tripartite Commission and its Technical Subcommittee to establish the whereabouts and resolve the fate of the remaining several hundred missing persons, including prisoners of war, Kuwaiti nationals and third-country nationals, victims of the illegal Iraqi occupation of Kuwait, to cooperate with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission on Human Rights for that purpose, to cooperate with the high-level coordinator of the Secretary-General for the repatriation of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals and the return of all Kuwaiti property in implementation of section B of Security Council resolution 1284 (1999), to pay compensation to the families of those who died or disappeared in the custody of the Iraqi authorities, through the mechanism established by the Security Council in resolution 692 (1991) of 20 May 1991, to release immediately all Kuwaitis and nationals of other States who may still be held in detention and inform families of the whereabouts of arrested persons, to provide information about death sentences imposed on prisoners of war and civilian detainees, and to issue death certificates for deceased prisoners of war and civilian detainees;

(*n*) To cooperate further with international aid agencies and non-governmental organizations to provide humanitarian assistance and monitoring in the northern and southern areas of the country;

(*o*) To continue to cooperate in the implementation of Security Council resolutions dealing with humanitarian and human rights matters;

(*p*) To cooperate in the identification of the minefields existing throughout Iraq, with a view to facilitating their marking and eventual clearing;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to give all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur to enable him to discharge his mandate fully, and decides to continue the examination of the situation of human rights in Iraq at its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Human rights questions".

RESOLUTION 57/233

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.3, para. 46),[588] by a recorded vote of 92 to 2, with 81 abstentions, as follows:

In favour: Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil,

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[588] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Yugoslavia

Against: Rwanda, Uganda

Abstaining: Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Lucia, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe

57/233. Situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[589] the International Covenants on Human Rights[590] and other human rights instruments,

Reaffirming that all States Members of the United Nations have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have undertaken under the various international instruments in the field,

Aware that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a party to several international human rights and humanitarian law instruments,[591]

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 56/173 of 19 December 2001, and those of the Commission on Human Rights, the most recent of which is resolution 2002/14 of 19 April 2002,[592] as well as Security Council resolutions on the subject, the most recent of which is resolution 1417 (2002) of 14 June 2002,

Recalling also the Ceasefire Agreement signed at Lusaka,[593] as well as the Kampala disengagement plan,[594] the Harare sub-plans for disengagement and redeployment, and the peace agreements signed at Pretoria[595] and Luanda,

Encouraging all Congolese parties to use the present momentum to promote an all-inclusive conclusion of the inter-Congolese dialogue,

Noting that the promotion and the protection of human rights for all are essential for achieving stability and security in the region and will contribute to the creation of the environment necessary for cooperation among States in the region,

Concerned at all violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by parties to the conflict, as mentioned in the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,[596]

Concerned in particular at continuing violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including in the Ituri region,

Concerned about the lack of procedural and substantive safeguards in the administration of justice in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Recalling its decision to request the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission to carry out a joint mission of investigation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while regretting that the security situation has not yet allowed such a mission,

1. *Welcomes*:

(*a*) The Peace Agreement, signed at Pretoria on 30 July 2002, between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda on the

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[589] Resolution 217 A (III).

[590] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[591] Including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (see resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (see resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex), the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (resolution 39/46, annex), the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (resolution 34/180, annex), the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (resolution 2106 A (XX), annex), the Convention on the Rights of the Child (resolution 44/25, annex) and the two Optional Protocols thereto (resolution 54/263, annexes I and II), the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (resolution 260 A (III)), the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the protection of victims of war (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973) and the first Additional Protocol thereto, of 1977 (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512), as well as the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1520, No. 26363).

[592] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

[593] S/1999/815, annex.

[594] See S/2000/330 and Corr.1, paras. 21–28.

[595] See S/2002/914, annex.

[596] See A/57/349 and A/57/437.

Withdrawal of the Rwandan Troops from the Territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Dismantling of the former Forces armées rwandaises and Interahamwe Forces in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the programme of implementation of that Agreement;[595]

(*b*) The Peace Agreement, signed at Luanda on 6 September 2002, between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Uganda on the withdrawal of Ugandan troops from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and cooperation and normalization of relations between the two countries;

(*c*) The continuing dialogue between the authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Burundi, and expresses the hope that this will lead to the permanent normalization of relations between the two countries;

(*d*) The significant withdrawals of foreign troops from the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*e*) The release by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo of some human rights defenders, its lifting of some restrictions on non-governmental organizations and its adoption of Law No. 001 of 17 May 2001, on political parties;

(*f*) The commitment by the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and the World Bank to prepare for and implement demobilization and reintegration programmes, in particular for child soldiers;

(*g*) The ratification in 2001 by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict;[597]

(*h*) The commitment of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to cooperate with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 and the recent arrest and transferral to Arusha of a prominent suspect in the Rwandan genocide;

(*i*) The ratification in 2002 by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;[598]

(*j*) The reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[596] and her visit to the country from 13 to 19 February 2002;

(*k*) The action taken by the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*l*) The release and repatriation carried out under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in conformity with international humanitarian law, of persons at risk because of their ethnic origin and of prisoners of war;

(*m*) The continuing presence and increased deployment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in support of the implementation of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement,[593] the Pretoria and Luanda peace agreements and the relevant Security Council resolutions;

(*n*) The work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Chief of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

2. *Condemns*:

(*a*) The continuing violations of human rights, fundamental freedoms and international humanitarian law, including acts of and incitement to ethnic hatred and violence and atrocities against civilian populations, generally committed with complete impunity;

(*b*) All massacres and atrocities committed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as constituting indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force, in particular those occurring in areas held by armed rebels or under foreign occupation, referring in this regard to the statement by the President of the Security Council of 23 July 2002 on the massacres that occurred in the region of Kisangani on 14 May 2002 and in the ensuing period,[599] and urges that all perpetrators be brought to justice, referring in this regard to the statement by the President of the Security Council of 18 October 2002;[600]

(*c*) The reprisals against civilian populations in parts of the country controlled by the Congolese Rally for Democracy, Rwanda and Uganda;

(*d*) The occurrence of cases of summary and arbitrary execution, disappearance, torture, beating, harassment and arrest, the persecution of individuals and the arbitrary detention for long periods of persons, including journalists, opposition politicians, human rights defenders, people who have cooperated with the United Nations mechanisms and other members of civil society;

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[597] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[598] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[599] S/PRST/2002/22; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

[600] S/PRST/2002/27; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2002–31 July 2003*.

(*e*) The indiscriminate attacks on civilian populations and on hospitals in areas held by rebels and by foreign forces;

(*f*) The recruitment and use of child soldiers by armed forces and groups, including the abduction of children throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in contravention of international human rights standards;

(*g*) The widespread use of sexual violence against women and children, including as a means of warfare;

3. *Expresses its concern* at:

(*a*) The adverse impact of the conflict on the situation of human rights and its severe consequences for the security and well-being of the civilian population throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the increase in the number of refugees and displaced persons, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*b*) The breaches of freedom of expression, opinion, association and assembly throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in particular in the eastern part of the country;

(*c*) The intention of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to suspend the moratorium on the carrying out of the death penalty;

(*d*) The illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in view of the link between that exploitation and the conflict;

(*e*) The excessive accumulation and spread of small arms and the distribution, circulation and illicit trafficking of arms in the region and their negative impact on human rights;

(*f*) The severe insecurity, which seriously hampers the ability of humanitarian organizations to secure access to affected populations, particularly in the zones held by armed rebels and under the control of foreign forces, while condemning the killing of six humanitarian workers of the International Committee of the Red Cross on 26 April 2001 in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the fact that those responsible remain to be brought to justice;

4. *Urges* all parties to the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

(*a*) To cease, in accordance with all the relevant agreements and resolutions, all military activities in the country in order to facilitate, without delay, the re-establishment of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*b*) To acknowledge that the Pretoria and Luanda peace agreements present an unprecedented opportunity to bring peace to the entire country and therefore to suspend their armed campaigns and avoid seeking retribution against their former adversaries, which will only serve to prolong the agony of the Congolese people and the appalling humanitarian and human rights conditions that they have suffered;

(*c*) To implement all necessary measures to put an end to the widespread violations of human rights and to impunity, in particular with regard to the sexual violence against women and children;

(*d*) To allow free and secure access to areas under their control in order to permit investigations of violations of human rights and international human rights law;

(*e*) To respect international humanitarian law, in particular to ensure the safety of all civilians, and to take and implement all necessary measures to create conditions for the voluntary return of all refugees and displaced persons;

(*f*) To ensure the safety, security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel and the unhindered access of humanitarian personnel to all affected populations throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) To cooperate fully with the National Commission of Inquiry on the alleged massacres of a large number of refugees and displaced persons in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*h*) To extend full cooperation to the United Nations system, humanitarian organizations and the World Bank in order to ensure the rapid demobilization and reintegration of armed groups and of child soldiers in particular;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to take specific measures:

(*a*) To comply fully with its obligations under international human rights law and to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*b*) To prevent conditions that might lead to further flows of displaced persons and refugees in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and across its borders;

(*c*) To continue to honour its commitments to reform and restore the judicial system, to abolish the death penalty and to reform military justice, including that of putting an end to the trying of civilians by the military court, in conformity with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[390] and notes in this regard Presidential decree No. 0223/2002 of 18 November 2002;

(*d*) To put an end to impunity and to ensure that those responsible for human rights violations and grave breaches of international humanitarian law are brought to justice;

(*e*) Along with other parties to the inter-Congolese dialogue, to reach agreement with the utmost urgency on a fully inclusive transitional Government which can assert its authority and re-establish order throughout the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*f*) To continue to facilitate and further strengthen its cooperation with the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

(*g*) To continue to cooperate with the International Tribunal for Rwanda, and demands that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo continue to arrest all known *génocidaires* in its territory;

6. *Calls upon* the Governments whose forces are in occupation of part of the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to respect human rights and international humanitarian law in the areas still under their control and to withdraw their troops;

7. *Calls upon* the international community to support the human rights field office in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in order to make possible the effective implementation of its programmes;

8. *Decides*:

(*a*) To continue to examine the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to request the Special Rapporteur to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

(*b*) To request the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances of the Commission to carry out, as soon as security considerations permit and, where appropriate, in cooperation with the National Commission of Inquiry to investigate alleged human rights violations and breaches of international humanitarian law in the Democratic Republic of the Congo between 1996 and 1997, a joint mission to investigate all massacres carried out on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo with a view to bringing to justice those responsible, and to report to the Commission on Human Rights at its fifty-ninth session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

(*c*) To request the Secretary-General to give the Special Rapporteurs and the joint mission all necessary assistance to enable them to discharge their mandate fully;

(*d*) To request the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide the technical skills needed by the joint mission to discharge its mandate.

RESOLUTION 57/234

Adopted at the 77th plenary meeting, on 18 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/556/Add.3, para. 46)[601]

57/234. Question of human rights in Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[602] the International Covenants on Human Rights[603] and accepted humanitarian rules, as set out in the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949[604] and the Additional Protocols thereto, of 1977,[605]

Reaffirming that all Member States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms and to fulfil the obligations they have freely undertaken under the various international instruments,

Recalling that Afghanistan is a party to the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide,[606] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[603] the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[603] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[607] the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[608] the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War,[609] as well as the Convention concerning Equal Remuneration (Convention No. 100) and the Convention concerning the Abolition of Forced Labour (Convention No. 105) of the International Labour Organization, and recalling that it has signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[610]

Welcoming the accession of Afghanistan to the Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict[611] and on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[612] and to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling,

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[601] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[602] Resolution 217 A (III).

[603] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

[604] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[605] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[606] Resolution 260 A (III).

[607] Resolution 39/46, annex.

[608] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[609] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, No. 973.

[610] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[611] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[612] Ibid., annex II.

Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction,[613]

Recalling that, as a State party to those international instruments, Afghanistan has the obligation to report on their implementation,

Recalling also all its relevant resolutions, as well as the resolutions and presidential statements of the Security Council, the decisions of the Economic and Social Council, the resolutions and decisions of the Commission on Human Rights and the resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 1333 (2000) of 19 December 2000, 1378 (2001) of 14 November 2001, 1383 (2001) of 6 December 2001, 1401 (2002) of 28 March 2002, 1413 (2002) of 23 May 2002 and 1419 (2002) of 26 June 2002 on the situation in Afghanistan,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1296 (2000) of 19 April 2000 on the protection of civilians, resolution 1379 (2001) of 20 November 2001 on children and armed conflict, resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000 and the statements by the President of the Council of 31 October 2001[614] and 31 October 2002,[615] on women and peace and security,

Warmly welcoming the conclusion of the Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (the Bonn Agreement), signed by the Afghan parties at Bonn, Germany, on 5 December 2001,[616] which reaffirms the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan and promotes national reconciliation, lasting peace, security and respect for human rights, and stressing the important role entrusted to the United Nations in that framework,

Warmly welcoming also the election by the Emergency Loya Jirga, in secret ballot, of the Head of State, President Hamid Karzai, and the establishment of the Afghan Transitional Authority,

Affirming the primary responsibility of the Afghan Transitional Authority, supported by the United Nations, to establish, in view of the formation of a government, an environment of good governance, democracy and the rule of law which:

(*a*) Should be broad-based, gender-sensitive, multi-ethnic and fully representative of all of the Afghan people and committed to peace with all countries,

(*b*) Should respect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all of the Afghan people, without discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, birth, descent or other status,

(*c*) Should respect the international obligations of Afghanistan, including by cooperating fully in international efforts to combat terrorism and illicit drug trafficking within and from Afghanistan,

(*d*) Should facilitate the urgent delivery of humanitarian assistance and the voluntary and orderly return, in safety and dignity, of refugees and internally displaced persons,

(*e*) Should promote democracy and the holding of free elections,

Recognizing that the accountability of perpetrators of grave human rights violations, and their accomplices, is one of the central elements of any effective remedy for victims of human rights violations, and recognizing also that a fair and effective national justice system is a key factor in ensuring the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms and, ultimately, reconciliation and stability within a State,

Commending the activity of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and the staff of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan,

Stressing the importance of ensuring the full and effective participation of women in all decision-making processes regarding the future of Afghanistan,

Stressing also the importance of the economic reconstruction and development process and the need to ensure that it is accomplished in a coordinated and non-discriminatory manner, in a context of full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

1. *Welcomes* the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan,[617] and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

2. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Transitional Authority to establish the Constitutional Commission to undertake, with the assistance of the United Nations, the task of drafting a new Constitution, which will reflect, inter alia, the commitment of Afghanistan to promote and protect human rights pursuant to its obligations under the international human rights instruments;

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[613] See CD/1478.

[614] S/PRST/2001/31; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

[615] S/PRST/2002/32; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 August 2002–31 July 2003*.

[616] See S/2001/1154.

[617] See A/57/309.

3. *Warmly welcomes* the establishment of the Independent Human Rights Commission, which has the primary responsibility for advising on the promotion and protection of human rights and developing a national programme for the implementation of the relevant section of the Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions (the Bonn Agreement);[616]

4. *Invites* the relevant bodies of the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within the framework of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan:

(*a*) To assist in the full implementation of the human rights provisions of the Bonn Agreement and the National Human Rights Programme for Afghanistan, including through the establishment of an active human rights component in Afghanistan;

(*b*) To contribute to the work of the recently established Independent Human Rights Commission, the responsibilities of which include the promotion of international human rights standards, human rights monitoring, the investigation of violations of human rights and the development of domestic human rights institutions that have dedicated personnel and operative plans;

(*c*) To develop a human rights-based strategy addressing, in particular, issues of accountability, transitional justice, a national programme for human rights education, women's rights and the rights of the child;

5. *Commends* the steps taken by the Transitional Authority to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to guarantee, in particular, the rights of children, women and persons belonging to national, ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities and the right to education, employment and freedom of religion and expression;

6. *Welcomes* the designation by the Transitional Authority of the members of the Judicial Commission, and urges it to resume its work without delay with a view to restoring the rule of law by, inter alia, the establishment of an independent and impartial judiciary, which should function in conformity with standards of international law relating to human rights;

7. *Urges* the Transitional Authority, the international community and the United Nations, in particular the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, to provide the commissions established under the Bonn Agreement with the support necessary to fulfil their mandates;

8. *Urges* the Transitional Authority to continue its efforts to re-establish the rule of law, including by ensuring that law enforcement agencies respect and uphold human rights and fundamental freedoms;

9. *Calls upon* the Transitional Authority to develop a culture of democracy that includes democratic institutions as well as a free press and autonomous electronic media, all of which contribute to the promotion of tolerance and respect for human rights;

10. *Expresses grave concern*:

(*a*) About the recent reports of ethnically motivated violence directed in particular against certain minority ethnic groups in affected areas that lack the rule of law and its enforcement machinery;

(*b*) About recent cases of arbitrary arrest and detention and of summary trials in some areas of the country;

(*c*) About recent attacks against women and girls, including rape and other forms of sexual violence, forced marriage, detention of women and girls for violating social codes and attacks on girls' schools;

11. *Calls upon* the Transitional Authority and all Afghan groups, in application of the Bonn Agreement:

(*a*) To respect fully all human rights and fundamental freedoms without discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, birth, descent or other status;

(*b*) To adhere strictly to their obligations under human rights instruments and international humanitarian law, inter alia, in relation to the treatment of prisoners;

(*c*) To implement fully demobilization and social reintegration activities, including those related to war-affected children;

(*d*) To facilitate the provision of efficient and effective remedies to the victims of grave violations and abuses of human rights and of international humanitarian law and to bring the perpetrators to justice in accordance with international standards and in particular with a view to combating impunity;

(*e*) To treat all suspects and convicted or detained persons in accordance with relevant international law and to refrain from acts of arbitrary detention in violation of international law;

(*f*) To facilitate the voluntary and orderly return in safety and dignity of Afghan refugees and internally displaced persons and their reintegration;

12. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Ministry of Women's Affairs, and encourages the Transitional Authority to provide the necessary support and resources to enable the Ministry to function effectively;

13. *Urges* the Transitional Authority to give high priority to the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[610] to end, without delay, all violations of the human rights of women and girls and to take urgent measures to ensure fully:

(*a*) The repeal of any legislative, institutional and other measures in place that discriminate against women and girls and those that impede the realization of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*b*) The full, equal and effective participation of women in civil, cultural, economic, political and social life throughout the country at all levels;

(*c*) Respect for the equal right of women to work and their reintegration into employment in all sectors and at all levels of Afghan society;

(*d*) The equal right of women and girls to education without discrimination, the effective functioning of schools throughout the country and the admission of women and girls to educational programmes at all levels;

(*e*) Respect for the equal right of women and girls to security of person, including in the private sphere, and to ensure that those responsible for physical attacks on women are brought to justice;

(*f*) The equal right of women and girls to access to health care;

14. *Notes with deep concern* the severity of the humanitarian crisis that still affects the country and the existence of millions of Afghan internally displaced persons and refugees;

15. *Recognizes* the huge burden shouldered by neighbouring countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, expresses its appreciation of the efforts made in those host countries to ease the plight of Afghan refugees, and encourages them to continue cooperating with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees to that end;

16. *Welcomes* the contributions of donors to meet the requirements of the Immediate and Transitional Assistance Programme for the Afghan People 2002, urges them to fulfil promptly the funding commitments made at the International Conference on Reconstruction Assistance to Afghanistan, held at Tokyo on 21 and 22 January 2002, and invites them to provide additional resources beyond those pledged at that Conference;

17. *Urges* the international community to provide continuing assistance to ensure an effective transition, consistent with the National Development Framework, from humanitarian assistance to the establishment of a longer-term social and economic recovery, with a view to meeting, in particular, the needs of internally displaced persons and returnees;

18. *Welcomes* the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and other United Nations agencies to achieve the voluntary return of 1.7 million refugees, calls upon the Office of the High Commissioner to continue implementing its plans for the voluntary and orderly repatriation of refugees in safety and dignity, in close cooperation with the Transitional Authority and with the support of other relevant United Nations agencies, and appeals to the international community to provide additional assistance for a durable solution to this problem;

19. *Notes with appreciation* the activities carried out by the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian organizations throughout the territory of Afghanistan;

20. *Appeals* to Member States, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, specialized agencies and other international organizations to ensure that all United Nations operations integrate a gender perspective, including in the selection of personnel for their management, and that women benefit equally with men from such programmes;

21. *Urges* the Transitional Authority and all Afghan groups to ensure the safety, security and free movement of all foreign and local United Nations and associated personnel, as well as of all foreign and local personnel of humanitarian organizations, and their safe and unimpeded access to all affected populations;

22. *Also urges* the Transitional Authority and all Afghan groups to guarantee the access of all Afghans to aid and to educational and health facilities without discrimination on grounds of race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national, ethnic or social origin, property, birth, descent or other status;

23. *Calls upon* the Transitional Authority and all Afghan groups to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan and all other special rapporteurs who request invitations to visit Afghanistan, and to facilitate their access to all sectors of society and to all parts of the country;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To provide all necessary assistance to the Special Rapporteur;

(*b*) To ensure, in consultation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the integration of a human rights capacity in the context of United Nations activities in Afghanistan, and also to ensure that the protection and promotion of human rights is central to the purposes and functions of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and that the Mission is fully equipped to implement effectively its human rights responsibilities under the terms of the Bonn Agreement;

25. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur to provide updated reports, as appropriate, on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan to the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights;

26. *Decides* to keep the situation of human rights in Afghanistan under consideration at its fifty-eighth session, in the light of additional elements provided by the Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council.

VI. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Fifth Committee

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RESOLUTIONS 57/4 A and B

57/4. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Resolution A

Adopted at the 20th plenary meeting, on 27 September 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/429, para. 7)[1]

A

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 54/237 C of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the letter dated 27 June 2002 from the Acting President of the General Assembly to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee transmitting a letter dated 21 June 2002 from the Chairman of the Committee on Contributions regarding the recommendations of that Committee on requests for exemption under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations,[2]

Reaffirming the obligation of Member States under Article 17 of the Charter to bear the expenses of the Organization as apportioned by the General Assembly,

1. *Reaffirms* its role in accordance with the provisions of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations and the advisory role of the Committee on Contributions in accordance with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly;

2. *Agrees* that the failure of the Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan to pay the full minimum amount necessary to avoid the application of Article 19 of the Charter was due to conditions beyond their control;

3. *Decides* that the Comoros, Georgia, Guinea-Bissau, the Republic of Moldova, Sao Tome and Principe, Somalia and Tajikistan should be permitted to vote in the General Assembly until 30 June 2003;

4. *Also decides*, while welcoming the undertaking of and assurances provided by the Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations, to permit Burundi to vote in the General Assembly until the next substantive session of the Committee on Contributions, scheduled to be held from 2 June 2003.

Resolution B

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/429/Add.1, para. 6)[3]

B

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/217 of 23 December 1992, 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, 56/240 E of 27 March 2002, 56/243 A of 24 December 2001, 56/243 B of 27 March 2002, 57/1 of 10 September 2002 and 57/3 of 27 September 2002,

Recalling also rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Contributions on its sixty-second session,[4]

Having also considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the application of Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations[5] and on multi-year payment plans,[6]

Having further considered the letter dated 27 December 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly,[7]

Welcoming the admission of Switzerland and Timor-Leste to membership of the United Nations,

Multi-year payment plans

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Contributions concerning multi-year payment plans, as contained in paragraphs 17 to 23 of its report;[4]

2. *Urges* all Member States to pay their assessed contributions in full, on time and without imposing conditions, in order to avoid the difficulties being experienced by the United Nations;

Appeals by Members for a change of assessments

3. *Decides* to fix the rates of assessment in 2003 for Afghanistan at 0.001 per cent and for Argentina at 0.969 per cent, as ad hoc adjustments;

4. *Requests* the Committee on Contributions to elaborate further on the criteria regarding ad hoc adjustments of the rates of assessment for consideration and approval by the

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[2] A/C.5/56/46.

[3] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 11* (A/57/11).

[5] A/57/60.

[6] A/57/65.

[7] A/56/767.

General Assembly, in keeping with rule 160 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly, so as to facilitate further its consideration of such adjustments;

5. *Emphasizes* the need to seek to preserve the integrity of the scale of assessments;

6. *Notes* that the decision contained in paragraph 3 above is not a precedent and that future appeals by Member States under rule 160 of the rules of procedure will be considered on a case-by-case basis;

7. *Also notes* that this decision should have no automatic implication for the apportionment of the expenses of the specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency;

Assessment of new Member States

8. *Reaffirms* the current methodology of the scale of assessments, as approved in its resolution 55/5 B;

9. *Decides* that the rate of assessment for Switzerland, admitted to membership of the United Nations on 10 September 2002, should be 1.274 per cent for the years 2002 and 2003;

10. *Decides also* that the rate of assessment for Timor-Leste, admitted to membership of the United Nations on 27 September 2002, should be 0.001 per cent for the years 2002 and 2003;

11. *Decides further* that the contributions of Switzerland and Timor-Leste for the regular budget, the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 for the year 2002 should be calculated on the basis of one twelfth of their relevant rates of assessment for the year 2002 per full calendar month of membership;

12. *Decides* that Switzerland should be credited with a corresponding proportion of its non-member State assessment for the year 2002;

13. *Decides also* that the contributions of Switzerland and Timor-Leste for the year 2002 should otherwise be applied to the same basis of assessment as for other Member States;

14. *Decides further* that the assessments of Switzerland and Timor-Leste for the year 2002 should be taken into account as miscellaneous income in accordance with regulation 5.2 (*c*) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

15. *Decides* that for the year 2003, the rates of assessment for Switzerland and Timor-Leste should be added to the scale of assessments established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/5 B;

16. *Decides also* that, in accordance with financial regulation 5.8, the advances of Switzerland and Timor-Leste to the Working Capital Fund should be calculated by the application of their rates of assessment for the year 2002 to the authorized level of the Fund and should be added to the Fund, pending their incorporation in a 100 per cent scale for the Fund for the biennium 2004–2005;

Outstanding assessed contributions of the former Yugoslavia

17. *Decides* to consider further the question of the outstanding assessed contributions of the former Yugoslavia at its fifty-eighth session;

Other matters

18. *Endorses* the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions contained in paragraph 125 of its report[4] concerning the financing of the final budget appropriations for the biennium 2000–2001.

RESOLUTION 57/278

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/639, para. 7)[8]

57/278. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 50/222 of 11 April 1996, 51/218 E of 17 June 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 53/204 of 18 December 1998, 53/221, section VIII, of 7 April 1999, 54/13 B of 23 December 1999, 55/220 A of 23 December 2000 and 55/220 B and C of 12 April 2001,

Having considered, for the period ended 31 December 2001, the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations,[9] the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO,[10] the United Nations University,[11] the United

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[8] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[9] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5* (A/57/5), vol. I and corrigendum (A/57/5/Corr.1).

[10] Ibid., vol. III and corrigendum (A/57/5/Corr.2).

[11] Ibid., vol. IV and corrigendum (A/57/5/Corr.3).

Nations Development Programme,[12] the United Nations Children's Fund,[13] the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East,[14] the United Nations Institute for Training and Research,[15] the voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[16] the Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme,[17] the United Nations Population Fund,[18] the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation,[19] the Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme,[20] the United Nations Office for Project Services,[21] the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994,[22] and the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991,[23] the concise summary of principal findings, conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports prepared by the Board of Auditors,[24] the first report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors by the United Nations[25] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[26]

1. *Accepts* the financial reports and audited financial statements and the reports and audit opinions of the Board of Auditors for the above-mentioned organizations;

2. *Approves* the recommendations and conclusions contained in the reports of the Board of Auditors, and endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[26]

3. *Commends* the Board of Auditors for the quality of its reports, in particular with respect to its comments on the management of resources;

4. *Notes with concern* the late issuance of the reports of the Board of Auditors and the explanation therefor by the Chairman of the Board, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure sufficient priority in completing their editing and translation in order that they may be submitted to the General Assembly in accordance with the six-week rule;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors by the United Nations.[25]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the funds and programmes of the United Nations to examine governance structures, principles and accountability throughout the United Nations system and to make proposals on the future format and consideration of the reports of the Board of Auditors by the respective executive boards and the General Assembly;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors are fully taken into account in the revised strategy for information and communication technology for the United Nations, as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/239 of 24 December 2001, before the strategy is considered by the Assembly;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Board of Auditors, to review the adequacy of the audit fee when considering the resources required for the Board of Auditors to carry out future specialized audits, to implement the provisions of the current resolution and to make appropriate recommendations in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

9. *Decides* to consider further the reports of the Board of Auditors on the International Tribunal for Rwanda[22] and the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia[23] also under the agenda items relating to the financing of the Tribunals.

RESOLUTION 57/279

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/648, para. 14)[27]

57/279. Procurement reform

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 52/214 B and 52/220 of 22 December 1997, 52/212 B of 31 March 1998, 52/252 of

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[12] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5A* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.1 and Corr.1).

[13] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5B* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.2 and Corr.1).

[14] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5C* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.3 and Corr.1).

[15] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5D* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.4 and Corr.1).

[16] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5E* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.5 and Corr.1).

[17] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5F* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.6 and Corr.1).

[18] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5G* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.7 and Corr.1).

[19] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5H* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.8 and Corr.1).

[20] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5I* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.9 and Corr.1).

[21] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5J* and corrigenda (A/57/5/Add.10 and Corr.1 and 2).

[22] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5K* and corrigenda (A/57/5/Add.11 and Corr.1–3).

[23] Ibid., *Supplement No. 5L* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.12 and Corr.1).

[24] See A/57/201.

[25] A/57/416.

[26] A/57/439.

[27] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

8 September 1998, 53/204 and 53/208 B of 18 December 1998, 54/14 of 29 October 1999 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on procurement reform[28] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[29]

Stressing the importance of ensuring the safety of United Nations personnel and United Nations equipment,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[28] and of the comments and observations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[29]

2. *Welcomes* the progress achieved in addressing the concerns expressed by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/247;

3. *Welcomes also* the efforts made by the Secretary-General to hold procurement seminars in various cities, in particular those located in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and urges him to intensify his efforts in this regard;

4. *Notes* the activities of the Common Services Procurement Working Group on enhancing the transparency and increasing the harmonization of procurement practices, and encourages the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the United Nations funds and programmes to continue their work in this regard;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the organizations of the United Nations system, consistent with their respective mandates, to improve their procurement practices, inter alia, by simplifying the registration process for vendors that have already registered with another body of the United Nations system, utilizing, among other things, the Internet, and by placing the procurement information on their respective web sites;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the organizations of the United Nations system, consistent with their respective mandates, to take further steps to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

7. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, through, inter alia, the technical assessment of vendors, that air safety standards are met for all United Nations air transport operations and, where feasible, for freight forwarding;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the United Nations Secretariat and affiliated funds and programmes fully implement all recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services and the Board of Auditors regarding procurement, in accordance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, on matters relating to procurement in the field, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations follows the principles of objectivity and impartiality while advising the Procurement Division;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, no later than at its fifty-ninth session, a report on safeguarding air safety standards while procuring air services, in particular in the area of cargo airlifts, for the United Nations peacekeeping missions;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the implementation of the present resolution, as well as on all other aspects of procurement reform, no later than at its fifty-ninth session.

RESOLUTION 57/280

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/648, para. 14)[30]

57/280. Proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004–2005

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, in which it requested the Secretary-General to submit in off-budget years an outline of the proposed programme budget for the following biennium,

Reaffirming also section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990,

Reaffirming further rule 153 of its rules of procedure,

Recalling its resolutions 56/253 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/287 of 27 June 2002 and 57/292 of 20 December 2002,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget outline for the biennium 2004–2005,[31] the related recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[32] and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[33]

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[28] A/57/187.

[29] A/57/7/Add.1, paras. 2–9. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[30] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[31] A/57/85.

[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), paras. 25 and 26.

[33] See A/57/636.

1. *Endorses* the relevant conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[32] and the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[33]

2. *Reaffirms* that the proposed programme budget outline shall contain an indication of the following:

(*a*) A preliminary estimate of resources needed to accommodate the proposed programme of activities during the biennium;

(*b*) Priorities reflecting general trends of a broad sectoral nature;

(*c*) Real growth, positive or negative, compared with the previous budget;

(*d*) Size of the contingency fund expressed as a percentage of the overall level of resources;

3. *Also reaffirms* that the budget outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium and promote greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process, thereby facilitating the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget;

4. *Further reaffirms* that the budget proposals of the Secretary-General should reflect resource levels commensurate with mandates for their full, efficient and effective implementation;

5. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to submit, in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, the total amount of resources that he should have at his disposal, from all sources of financing, in order to implement fully all mandated programmes and activities;

6. *Notes* that the budget outline is a preliminary estimate of resources;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to include in the proposed budget outlines and in the proposed programme budget provisions for expenditures for special political missions related to peace and security expected to be extended or approved in the course of the biennium;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make appropriate provisions in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 to minimize adverse impacts on the provision of adequate conference services and other related services, in accordance with its resolutions 56/254 D and 56/287, drawing, inter alia, on the improvements made in the management of conference services;

9. *Invites* the Secretary-General to prepare his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 on the basis of a preliminary estimate of 2,876 million United States dollars at revised 2002–2003 rates;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to resubmit the proposed information technology strategy in accordance with resolution 56/239 of 24 December 2001 during the resumed fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly;

11. *Decides* to consider in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, in addition to the preliminary estimate, a provision in the amount of 29.8 million dollars for information technology and common services facility infrastructure, bearing in mind the comments of the Secretary-General in paragraph 5 of his report;[31]

12. *Decides also* that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 shall contain provisions for recosting on the basis of the existing methodology;

13. *Decides further* that the priorities for the biennium 2004–2005 shall be the following:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in view of his preliminary indicative estimates contained in the proposed budget outline, to reflect the priorities outlined in paragraph 13 above when presenting the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

15. *Decides* that the contingency fund shall be set at the level of 0.75 per cent of the preliminary estimate, namely at 21.6 million dollars, that this amount shall be in addition to the overall level of the preliminary estimate and that it shall be used in accordance with the procedures for the use and operation of the contingency fund.

RESOLUTION 57/281

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/603, para. 6)[34]

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[34] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

57/281. Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolutions 51/243 of 15 September 1997, 52/234 of 26 June 1998, 53/11 of 26 October 1998 and 53/218 of 7 April 1999 and its decision 55/462 of 12 April 2001,

Having considered the annual report of the Secretary-General on gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities, covering the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001,[35] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[36]

Takes note of the annual report of the Secretary-General.[35]

RESOLUTION 57/282

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/650, para. 7)[37]

57/282. Programme planning

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 37/234 of 21 December 1982, 38/227 A of 20 December 1983, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 55/234 of 23 December 2000 and 56/253 of 24 December 2001,

Having examined the proposed revisions submitted by the Secretary-General[38] concerning the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[39]

Having considered the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-second session,[40]

Having also considered the note by the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to programme 1, Political affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[41] the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000–2001,[42] the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives[43] and the note by the Secretariat[44] on a new subprogramme on financing for development and revisions to relevant subprogrammes under programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,

Having further considered the letter dated 15 October 2002 from the Chairman of the Sixth Committee addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee[45] and the letter dated 31 October 2002 from the President of the General Assembly addressed to the Chairman of the Fifth Committee,[46]

1. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-second session;[40]

2. *Reaffirms* the role of the Committee as the main subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council for planning, programming and coordination;

3. *Requests* the Committee to continue to observe its methods of governing the drafting and format of its reports;

4. *Encourages* the Committee to continue its discussions on improving its working methods and procedures within the framework of its mandate, with a view to further enhancing its effectiveness and continued relevance;

I

Revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005

1. *Reaffirms* that the medium-term plan is the principal policy directive of the United Nations and that it shall serve as the framework for the next biennial programme budget;

2. *Reaffirms* regulations 4.2, 4.13 and 5.2 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation,[47] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure full compliance with them;

3. *Adopts* the proposed revisions to the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005 submitted by the Secretary-General,[38] as amended by the relevant recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination,[40] and the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council contained in its resolution 2002/39 of 25 October 2002;

4. *Notes* the recommendations of the Committee[48] that the Secretary-General submit proposals for revisions to programme 7 of the medium-term plan so as to reflect the review

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[35] A/56/839.

[36] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 7A* (A/56/7/Add.1–11), annex.

[37] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[38] A/57/6 (Prog.1 and Corr.1, Progs.2, 3, 5, 7–19 and 24–26).

[39] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1).

[40] Ibid., *Fifty-seventh session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16).

[41] A/C.5/57/12.

[42] A/57/62.

[43] See A/57/68.

[44] A/C.5/57/19.

[45] A/C.5/57/17.

[46] A/C.5/57/20.

[47] ST/SGB/2000/8.

[48] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), paras. 107 and 108.

by the Assembly at its fifty-seventh session of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002,[49] and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[50] and requests the Secretary-General to submit those proposals through the Committee at its forty-third session for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Also notes* the recommendation of the Committee[51] that the Secretary-General submit proposals for revisions to programme 8, Africa: New Agenda for Development, of the medium-term plan so as to reflect the final review and appraisal by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and any other relevant legislative mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to submit those revisions through the Committee at its forty-third session for consideration by the Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, bearing in mind that the lack of time precludes further revisions to the medium-term plan at the fifty-seventh session, to prepare the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005 for programmes 7 and 8 of the medium-term plan in line with the recommendations of the Committee at its forty-second session and other relevant legislative mandates;

II

Programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000–2001

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the programme performance of the United Nations for the biennium 2000–2001;[52]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[52] regarding the report of the Secretary-General;

III

Evaluation

1. *Stresses* the importance and necessity of further improving evaluation and integrating it into the cycle of programme planning, budgeting and monitoring with a view to improving and strengthening programme formulation and implementation;

2. *Approves* the following schedule of in-depth evaluations to be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its forty-third, forty-fourth and forty-fifth sessions respectively: (*a*) law of the sea and ocean affairs; (*b*) public administration, finance and development; and (*c*) human settlements;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of the contribution of the relevant intergovernmental bodies, in particular the Main Committees of the General Assembly, in reviewing relevant recommendations on evaluation;

4. *Reiterates* its view that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, as well as the Economic and Social Council and the Main Committees of the General Assembly should include in their programmes of work a review of recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination relevant to their work and take appropriate action;

5. *Regrets* that the relevant intergovernmental bodies did not review the recommendations on evaluation of the Committee;

6. *Urges* those intergovernmental bodies effectively to review the relevant recommendations on evaluation to facilitate their consideration by the Fifth Committee;

7. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on strengthening the role of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives,[53] on the in-depth evaluation of the subprogrammes on General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and Council support and coordination,[54] on the in-depth evaluation of legal affairs,[55] on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the disarmament programme[56] and on the triennial review of the implementation of the recommendations made by the Committee at its thirty-ninth session on the in-depth evaluation of the electoral assistance programme;[57]

IV

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[58] regarding the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Strengthening

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[49] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[50] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolutions 1 and 2.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), para. 117.

[52] Ibid., paras. 56–61.

[53] Ibid., paras. 253–259.

[54] Ibid., paras. 271–274.

[55] Ibid., paras. 289 and 290.

[56] Ibid., paras. 297 and 298.

[57] Ibid., paras. 305 and 306.

[58] Ibid., paras. 356 and 357.

the investigations functions in United Nations system organizations";[59]

2. *Notes* the recommendation of the Unit that executive heads of organizations should ensure that managers involved in investigations have sufficient training in the use of established standards and procedures for conducting investigations,[60] and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that United Nations programme managers implicated in incidents, crimes or irregularities leading to investigations are not involved, in any way, in conducting those investigations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review the practice of involving United Nations programme managers in investigative processes so as to ensure their independence in administrative and managerial functions and to establish proper guidelines that take into consideration the practice of internal control, and to report thereon to the General Assembly no later than at its fifty-eighth session;

V

Other conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination[61] regarding the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2001,[62] and its conclusions and recommendations[63] regarding the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative on Africa in the context of the final evaluation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;[64]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Committee at its forty-third session on the future engagement of the United Nations system with the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

3. *Stresses* that inter-agency coordination in the field of management should be further strengthened, and recommends that progress made in that regard be reflected in future reports of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.

RESOLUTION 57/283

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/651, para. 7)[65]

57/283. Pattern of conferences

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its relevant resolutions, including resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 41/213 of 19 December 1986, 43/222 A to E of 21 December 1988, 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 54/248 of 23 December 1999, 55/222 of 23 December 2000, 56/242 of 24 December 2001, 56/254 D of 27 March 2002, 56/262 of 15 February 2002 and 56/287 of 27 June 2002,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Conferences[66] and the relevant reports of the Secretary-General,[67]

Having also considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[68]

1. *Approves* the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2003, as contained in the annex to the report of the Committee on Conferences;[66]

2. *Authorizes* the Committee on Conferences to make any adjustments to the calendar of conferences and meetings for 2003 that may become necessary as a result of actions and decisions taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that any modification to the calendar of conferences and meetings would be implemented strictly in accordance with the mandate of the Committee on Conferences and other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

4. *Decides* to continue consideration of the item, as a matter of priority, during the first part of its resumed fifty-seventh session;

5. *Decides also* to resume consideration of the reports of the Secretary-General on the pattern of conferences[69] and on improving the performance of the Department of General Assembly Affairs and Conference Services[70] in order to take action on them.

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[59] See A/56/282.

[60] Ibid., recommendation 2.

[61] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), paras. 316–323.

[62] E/2002/55.

[63] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), paras. 334–338.

[64] E/AC.51/2002/8.

[65] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[66] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 32* and corrigendum (A/57/32 and Corr.1).

[67] A/56/901, A/57/228 and Add.1 and 2, A/57/289 and A/C.5/56/37.

[68] A/57/472.

[69] A/57/228 and Add.1 and 2.

[70] A/57/289.

RESOLUTIONS 57/284 A and B

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/640, para. 6)[71]

57/284. Joint Inspection Unit

A

REPORTS OF THE JOINT INSPECTION UNIT

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its previous resolutions on the Joint Inspection Unit, in particular resolutions 50/233 of 7 June 1996, 54/16 of 29 October 1999, 55/230 of 23 December 2000 and 56/245 of 24 December 2001,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit for 2001;[72]

2. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the programme of work of the Unit for 2002;[73]

3. *Also takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the preliminary listing of potential reports for the programme of work of the Unit for 2003 and beyond;[74]

4. *Takes note in particular* that, as noted in the preliminary listing of potential reports for the programme of work of the Unit for 2003 and beyond and reaffirmed by the Chairman of the Unit, the preliminary listing is of a tentative nature and does not necessarily imply that the Unit is committed to taking up those subjects;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations of the Unit;[75]

6. *Reiterates its request* to the executive heads of participating organizations to observe fully the time frame for submitting their comments, as called for in article 11, paragraphs 4 (*d*) and (*e*), of the statute of the Unit;

7. *Reiterates* the need for the Unit to place emphasis in its work on well-defined and timely items of high priority, identifying concrete managerial, administrative and programming questions aimed at providing the General Assembly and other legislative organs of participating organizations with practical and action-oriented recommendations;

8. *Stresses* the need for the Unit to pay special attention to the preparation of reports that are more evaluation-oriented;

9. *Invites* additional efforts by the Unit, the bureaux of the legislative organs and the secretariats concerned to ensure that the relevant reports of the Unit are submitted to the legislative organs of participating organizations and that those organs take specific action on the recommendations contained in the reports;

10. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Unit to implement the follow-up mechanisms described in paragraphs 24 and 25 of its report for 2001[72] so as to ensure the systematic tracking of the status of implementation of the Unit's recommendations;

11. *Takes note* of the information contained in paragraphs 27 to 32 of the report of the Unit regarding the proposed new procedure for handling comments of the participating organizations on the findings and recommendations of the Unit, and invites the Unit to provide detailed information on the new procedure in comparison with the current procedure, together with the comments of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the executive heads of the participating organizations that have not yet done so to take the steps necessary to facilitate the consideration of and action on the system of follow-up to the reports of the Unit, and invites the legislative organs concerned to consider the system and take action in that regard;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the executive heads of the other participating organizations for their attention;

14. *Requests* the Unit to report to the General Assembly, in its next annual report, on the implementation of the present resolution.

B

ENHANCING GOVERNANCE OVERSIGHT ROLE: STRUCTURE, WORKING METHODS AND PRACTICES ON HANDLING OVERSIGHT REPORTS

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Enhancing governance oversight role: structure, working methods and practices on handling oversight reports"[76] and the comments of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon,[77] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[78]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Enhancing governance oversight role: structure, working methods and practices on handling oversight reports"[76] and the

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[71] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[72] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 34* (A/57/34).

[73] A/57/61.

[74] A/57/321.

[75] A/57/327.

[76] See A/57/58.

[77] See A/57/58/Add.1.

[78] A/57/434.

comments of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon;[77]

2. *Concurs* with the observations and views of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in paragraphs 9 to 11 of its report;[78]

3. *Reaffirms* its decision, contained in paragraph 5 of its resolution 50/233, to consider the thematic reports of the Unit under the relevant agenda items.

RESOLUTION 57/285

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/652, para. 7)[79]

57/285. United Nations common system: report of the International Civil Service Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2002[80] and the statement submitted by the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the Commission,[81]

Reaffirming its commitment to a single, unified United Nations common system as the cornerstone for the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Convinced that the common system constitutes the best instrument through which to secure staff with the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity for the international civil service, as stipulated in the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the statute of the Commission and the central role of the Commission in the regulation and coordination of the conditions of service of the United Nations common system,

Takes note of the report of the International Civil Service Commission for 2002;[80]

I

Conditions of service applicable to both categories of staff

A. Review of the pay and benefits system

Recalling its resolutions 51/216 of 18 December 1996, 52/216 of 22 December 1997, 53/209 of 18 December 1998 and 55/223 of 23 December 2000,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the concrete progress made by the Commission in the review of the pay and benefits system in the context of the approved framework for human resources management;

2. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 39 and 60 of its report;[80]

3. *Invites* the Commission to duly take into account all views expressed by Member States regarding the review of the pay and benefits system, bearing in mind that any eventual proposals should be aimed at enhancing the effectiveness as well as the efficiency of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system, consistent with the principles set out in paragraph 12 of the report of the Commission;[80]

4. *Notes* that the Commission will examine the issue of contractual arrangements in the United Nations system organizations, bearing in mind its close linkage to the review of the pay and benefits system;

5. *Requests* the Commission to review the decision contained in paragraph 80 of its report,[80] including the question of whether the Senior Management Service should be dealt with in the framework of the review of the pay and benefits system, in view of the intention of the General Assembly to consider the question at its fifty-eighth session;

6. *Notes* that the proposed Senior Management Service would not require a special pay and benefits package, as mentioned in paragraph 80 of the report of the Commission;

7. *Requests* the Commission to conduct a review of grade equivalency between the United Nations and the United States federal service in accordance with the new master standard during its review of the pay and benefits system, taking fully into account the post structure of the United Nations and of the United States federal Government, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

B. Mobility

Recalling its resolution 55/258 of 14 June 2001, in which the General Assembly requested the Commission to conduct a comprehensive review of the question of mobility and its implications for the career development of staff members in the United Nations system,

Takes note of paragraph 92 of the report of the Commission,[80] and, in this context, requests the Commission to continue to develop its study in this area and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

C. Common scale of staff assessment

Recalling its resolutions 48/225 of 23 December 1993 and 51/216,

Takes note of the decision of the Commission as contained in paragraph 96 of its report;[80]

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[79] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[80] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 30* (A/57/30).

[81] A/57/450 and Corr.1 and 2.

D. Hazard pay

Requests the Commission to reconsider its decision on hazard pay, taking into account all the views expressed by Member States;

E. Review of the level of education grant

Recalling its resolutions 51/216 and 52/216,

1. *Approves* increases in the maximum reimbursement levels for seven countries or currency areas, as well as other recommendations in respect of the reimbursement of expenses under the education grant, as contained in paragraph 141 of and annex V to the report of the Commission;[80]

2. *Takes note* of the decisions of the Commission contained in paragraphs 142 and 143 of its report;

II

Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

A. Margin considerations and base/floor salary scale

Recalling section I.C, paragraph 3, of its resolution 44/198 of 21 December 1989, section II.B of its resolution 48/224 of 23 December 1993, section I.C of its resolution 51/216, section I.B of its resolutions 52/216, 53/209 and 54/238 of 23 December 1999, section II.C of its resolution 55/223 and section II.A of its resolution 56/244 of 24 December 2001,

1. *Notes* that the net remuneration margin, which measures the relationship between United Nations salaries and those of the comparator for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2002, is 109.3, as shown in annex III to the report of the Commission;[80]

2. *Reaffirms* that the range of 110 to 120 for the margin between the net remuneration of officials in the Professional and higher categories of the United Nations in New York and officials in comparable positions in the comparator civil service should continue to apply, on the understanding that the margin would be maintained at the desirable midpoint of 115 over a period of time;

3. *Requests* the Commission to keep the matter under review with a view to restoring the margin to its midpoint over a period of time, and requests the Commission to report to the General Assembly on the outcome of this review at its sixty-second session, taking into full account the Noblemaire principle;

4. *Approves*, with effect from 1 January 2003, the revised scale of gross and net salaries for staff in the Professional and higher categories, as contained in the annex to the present resolution;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Commission to strengthen performance and accountability, especially at the senior levels, throughout the common system, and requests the Commission to make recommendations, where appropriate, for increasing the roles of performance and productivity in determining remuneration levels;

6. *Requests* the Commission, when conducting its review of the pay and benefits system, to bear in mind necessity for performance management systems to be fair and transparent;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Commission to review, in the context of the review of the pay and benefits system, the existing linkage between the base/floor salary scale and the mobility and hardship allowance;

B. Dependency allowances

Recalling section II.F, paragraph 2, of its resolution 47/216 of 23 December 1992, in which it noted that the Commission would review the level of dependency allowances every two years,

Endorses the recommendations of the Commission contained in paragraph 182 of its report;[80]

III

Conditions of service of the General Service and other locally recruited categories

Recalling section II.A of its resolution 52/216, in which it reaffirmed that the Flemming principle should continue to serve as the basis for determining the conditions of service of the General Service and related categories and endorsed the revised methodology for surveys of best prevailing conditions of employment for those categories,

Takes note of the results of the salary surveys conducted in London, Vienna and Geneva, as reported in chapter V of the report of the Commission;[80]

IV

Strengthening of the international civil service

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General concerning the strengthening of the international civil service;[82]

2. *Endorses* the terms of reference of the panel on the strengthening of the international civil service, as contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Requests* the panel also to comment on the role and main characteristics of the international civil service;

4. *Invites* the Commission to comment on the findings and recommendations of the panel and to submit its comments to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, to be considered by the Assembly together with the report of the Secretary-General.

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[82] A/57/612.

Annex

Salary scale for staff in the Professional and higher categories showing annual gross salaries and net equivalents after application of staff assessment

(United States dollars)

Effective 1 January 2003

		Step														
Level		*I*	*II*	*III*	*IV*	*V*	*VI*	*VII*	*VIII*	*IX*	*X*	*XI*	*XII*	*XIII*	*XIV*	*XV*
Under-Secretary-General																
USG	Gross	186 144														
	Net D	125 609														
	Net S	113 041														
Assistant Secretary-General																
ASG	Gross	169 366														
	Net D	115 207														
	Net S	104 324														
Director																
D-2	Gross	139 050	142 085	145 119	148 154	151 189	154 223									
	Net D	96 411	98 292	100 174	102 055	103 937	105 818									
	Net S	88 571	90 159	91 741	93 318	94 890	96 456									
Principal Officer																
D-1	Gross	126 713	129 377	132 041	134 705	137 369	140 033	142 697	145 361	148 024						
	Net D	88 762	90 414	92 065	93 717	95 369	97 020	98 672	100 324	101 975						
	Net S	82 045	83 481	84 913	86 342	87 768	89 190	90 609	92 025	93 437						
Senior Officer																
P-5	Gross	104 102	106 369	108 635	110 901	113 168	115 434	117 701	119 967	122 234	124 500	126 766	129 033	131 299		
	Net D	74 743	76 149	77 554	78 959	80 364	81 769	83 174	84 580	85 985	87 390	88 795	90 200	91 606		
	Net S	69 437	70 685	71 930	73 174	74 416	75 655	76 892	78 127	79 360	80 591	81 820	83 046	84 271		
First Officer																
P-4	Gross	84 435	86 489	88 544	90 637	92 824	95 011	97 198	99 385	101 572	103 759	105 946	108 133	110 320	112 507	114 694
	Net D	62 327	63 683	65 039	66 395	67 751	69 107	70 463	71 819	73 175	74 530	75 886	77 242	78 598	79 954	81 310
	Net S	58 041	59 276	60 509	61 740	62 971	64 200	65 429	66 656	67 881	69 106	70 329	71 551	72 772	73 992	75 211
Second Officer																
P-3	Gross	68 306	70 208	72 112	74 011	75 915	77 815	79 715	81 620	83 523	85 423	87 326	89 226	91 202	93 226	95 250
	Net D	51 682	52 937	54 194	55 447	56 704	57 958	59 212	60 469	61 725	62 979	64 235	65 489	66 745	68 000	69 255
	Net S	48 242	49 396	50 553	51 706	52 862	54 015	55 169	56 324	57 477	58 632	59 782	60 933	62 083	63 233	64 384
Associate Officer																
P-2	Gross	55 346	56 907	58 465	60 027	61 729	63 429	65 130	66 829	68 532	70 233	71 932	73 636			
	Net D	42 849	43 973	45 095	46 218	47 341	48 463	49 586	50 707	51 831	52 954	54 075	55 200			
	Net S	40 191	41 210	42 226	43 244	44 260	45 279	46 313	47 344	48 379	49 412	50 444	51 479			
Assistant Officer																
P-1	Gross	42 944	44 444	45 942	47 442	48 939	50 438	51 938	53 436	54 932	56 432					
	Net D	33 920	35 000	36 078	37 158	38 236	39 315	40 395	41 474	42 551	43 631					
	Net S	31 997	32 992	33 986	34 980	35 974	36 967	37 962	38 944	39 921	40 899					

D = Rate applicable to staff members with a dependent spouse or child.

S = Rate applicable to staff members with no dependent spouse or child.

RESOLUTION 57/286

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/653, para. 7)[83]

57/286. United Nations pension system

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/217 of 18 December 1996, 53/210 of 18 December 1998 and 55/224 of 23 December 2000 and section V of its resolutions 54/251 of 23 December 1999 and 56/255 of 24 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[84] the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[85] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[86]

Endorses the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[86]

I

Actuarial matters

Recalling section I of its resolution 55/224,

Having considered the results of the valuation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund as at 31 December 2001 and the observations thereon by the Consulting Actuary of the Fund, the Committee of Actuaries and the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,

1. *Takes note* of the actuarial situation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, which went from an actuarial surplus of 0.36 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 1997 to an actuarial surplus of 4.25 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 1999, and to an actuarial surplus of 2.92 per cent of pensionable remuneration as at 31 December 2001, and, in particular, of the opinions provided by the Consulting Actuary and the Committee of Actuaries, as reproduced in annexes VII and VIII, respectively, to the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board;[84]

2. *Also takes note* of the general support of the Board for the report of the Working Group established by the Board to undertake a fundamental review of the benefit provisions of the Fund, taking into account developments in staffing and remuneration policies in the member organizations and in pension arrangements at the national and international levels, and notes in particular that the Board approved the recommendations of the Working Group, set out in paragraphs 157 and 158 of the report of the Board,[84] as further promoting the human resources framework adopted by the International Civil Service Commission and the General Assembly and serving to enhance the mobility of staff and the portability of pensions;

3. *Further takes note* of the recommendation of the Board that the current contribution rate should be maintained but kept under review;

4. *Approves*, in principle, the changes in the benefit provisions of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in annex XIV to the report of the Board,[84] that would eliminate the limitation on the right to restoration for existing and future participants, with implementation to begin at such time as the actuarial valuation of the Fund shows a clear upward pattern of surpluses;

5. *Notes* that the Board agreed to make no changes in the methodology currently used in the determination of final average remuneration, but agreed to study all possible means of redressing the existing aberrations in the levels of initial pensions and in income replacement ratios over time;

6. *Concurs* with the transfer agreements with the European Organization for the Safety of Air Navigation and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, as approved by the Board under article 13 of the Regulations of the Fund, with a view to securing continuity of pension rights between the Fund and the two organizations, as set out in annex X to the report of the Board;[84]

II

Pension adjustment system

Recalling section II of its resolution 55/224,

Having considered the reviews carried out by the Working Group of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and subsequently by the Board, as set out in its report,[84] of various aspects of the pension adjustment system,

1. *Recalls* the aim of enhancing the mobility of staff and the portability of pensions;

2. *Approves*, in principle, the changes in the pension adjustment system, as set out in annex XIII to the report of the Board,[84] with implementation to begin when the actuarial valuation of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund shows a clear upward pattern of surpluses, namely:

(*a*) To apply cost-of-living adjustments to deferred retirement benefits as from age 50;

(*b*) To apply cost-of-living differential factors to deferred retirement benefits as from the date of separation;

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[83] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[84] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/57/9).

[85] A/C.5/57/11.

[86] A/57/490.

3. *Notes* that the Board approved the recommendation of the Working Group to eliminate the 1.5 percentage point reduction in the first consumer price index adjustment due to existing and future beneficiaries, subject to an actuarial surplus being revealed in the actuarial valuation to be performed as at 31 December 2003;

4. *Takes note* of the decision of the Board to continue to study the problems associated with the adjustment of pensions after award;

5. *Also takes note* of the results of the monitoring of the costs/savings of recent modifications of the two-track feature of the pension adjustment system and of the intention of the Board to continue to monitor those costs/savings every two years, on the occasion of the actuarial valuations of the Fund;

III

Financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and report of the Board of Auditors

Having considered the financial statements of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 2001, the audit opinion and report of the Board of Auditors thereon, the information provided on the internal audits of the Fund and the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board,[84]

Notes that, in its report on the accounts of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the biennium ended 31 December 2001,[87] the Board of Auditors indicated that the financial statements were in compliance with accepted standard accounting principles and that there were no major findings of problems concerning procedures and controls;

IV

Administrative arrangements and longer-term objectives of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Recalling section VII of its resolution 51/217, section V of its resolutions 52/222, 53/210 and 54/251, section IV of its resolution 55/224 and section V of its resolution 56/255 concerning the administrative arrangements and expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,

Having considered chapter VII of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board[84] concerning the administrative arrangements of the Fund,

1. *Takes note* of the information set out in paragraphs 96 and 97 of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board[84] on the revised budget estimates for the biennium 2002–2003;

2. *Approves* the increase in resources under administrative costs for the biennium 2002–2003, from 29,943,800 to 30,006,300 United States dollars, for the recalculation of benefits due to a judgement of the International Labour Organization Tribunal and a retroactive change in local salary scales;

3. *Takes note* of the information set out in paragraphs 100 to 104 of the report of the Board[84] on the whole-office review of the staffing structure and levels of both the Fund secretariat and the Investment Management Service, and also takes note of the support and endorsement in principle of the Board for the Secretary/Chief Executive Officer's efforts and plans for modernization in order to deal with the fast-growing activities of the Fund;

4. *Also takes note* of the support of the Board for the efforts of the Secretary/Chief Executive Officer to continue to search for permanent premises for the Fund in New York;

V

Survivors' benefits

Recalling section V of its resolution 55/224,

Takes note of the further review undertaken by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board of issues related to the pension entitlements of survivors, and requests the Board to examine the administrative and financial aspects of this matter, as a whole, and report to the General Assembly thereon at its fifty-ninth session;

VI

Activities relating to former participants from the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic

Recalling section VI of its resolution 55/224,

1. *Notes* the information provided by the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board in paragraphs 125 to 140 of its report;[84]

2. *Decides* that this issue does not require further consideration by the General Assembly;

VII

Size and composition of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and the Standing Committee

1. *Takes note* of the information set out in paragraphs 205 to 220 of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board[84] on the review of the size and composition of the Board and its Standing Committee;

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[87] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 9* (A/57/9), annex XII.

2. *Requests* the Board to study the representation of the Fund's member organizations on the Board, so as to clarify the criteria adopted for that purpose, and to submit further proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, with a view to making such representation more equitable in order to reflect the actual distribution of active participants in the Fund, present and future trends in Fund participation, the changing nature of the Fund's member organizations and improved participation by members and alternate members in the Committee and Board meetings;

VIII

Other matters

1. *Takes note* of the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as set out in paragraphs 194 and 195 of its report,[84] on the review and conclusions reached by the International Civil Service Commission on the changes in average tax rates at the seven headquarters duty stations, which formed the basis for the development of the current common scale of staff assessment for pensionable remuneration;

2. *Approves*, with effect from 1 April 2003, amendments to articles 28 (*g*), 30 (*c*) and 34 (*f*), of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in the annex to the present resolution, to increase the ceilings applicable in the commutation of the minimum benefit;

3. *Also approves*, with effect from 1 April 2003, the addition of a new paragraph to article 21 of the Regulations of the Fund, as set out in the annex to the present resolution, stating that a participant is deemed to have separated when he or she is on leave without pay for an extended period of time without concurrent contributions having been paid to the Fund;

4. *Notes* that the Board considered the possible application by the International Criminal Court to become a member organization of the Fund and that a formal application would be submitted to the Standing Committee in 2003, with possible membership to take effect on 1 January 2004;

5. *Also notes* that the Board considered the detailed report of the medical consultant, covering the period from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2001;

6. *Takes note* of the other matters dealt with in the report of the Board;

7. *Decides* to revert to the issue of possible improvements in pension benefits at the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

IX

Investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund[85] as well as the observations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board, as set out in paragraphs 81 to 83 of its report;[84]

2. *Stresses* the importance of ensuring that the fiduciary responsibility of the Secretary-General, under the Regulations of the Fund, to take decisions on the investments of the assets of the Fund would under no circumstances be compromised;

3. *Notes* the concern expressed by the Board over the reduction in the market value of the investments of the Fund and the continuing efforts by the management of the investments to deal with market turbulence;

4. *Takes note* of the intention of the Board of Auditors and the Pension Board:

(*a*) To follow up on the audit recommendations;

(*b*) To review the procedures and operating methods of the Investment Management Service;

(*c*) To review terms of reference for an independent external performance review of the investments of the Fund;

X

Diversification of investments of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Recalling its resolutions 36/119 A to C of 10 December 1981,

1. *Recognizes* that the Fund's policy of broad diversification of its investments by currency, types of asset classes and geographical areas continues to be the most reliable method of reducing risk and improving returns over long periods of time;

2. *Reaffirms* paragraph 3 of section VIII of its resolution 55/224;

3. *Also reaffirms* the policy of diversification of the investments of the Fund across geographical areas, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and beneficiaries of the Fund, in accordance with the four criteria of safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report on this matter to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session.

Annex

Amendments to the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Article 21
Participation

Add the following new paragraph (*c*):

"(*c*) Notwithstanding the provisions of (*b*) above, a participant is deemed to have separated when he or she has completed (i) a consecutive period of three years on leave without pay without concurrent contributions having been paid in accordance with article 25 (*b*), or (ii) four years under the conditions described in (i) above within a total period of five years. To re-enter the Fund, such former participant would have to satisfy the requirements for participation set out in (*a*) above."

Article 28
Retirement benefit

In paragraph (*g*), subparagraph (iii), replace the number "300" with the number "1,000".

Article 30
Deferred retirement benefit

In paragraph (*c*), replace the number "300" with the number "1,000".

Article 34
Widow's benefit

In paragraph (*f*), replace the number "200" with the number "600".

RESOLUTIONS 57/287 A and B

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/604, para. 6)[88]

57/287. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services

A

REPORTS OF THE OFFICE OF INTERNAL OVERSIGHT SERVICES

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

Having considered the following reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services:

(*a*) Report on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention,[89]

(*b*) Report on the investigation into allegations of misconduct and mismanagement of the "boat project" at the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention,[90]

(*c*) Report on the inspection of the administrative and management practices of the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[91]

(*d*) Report on the investigation into allegations of refugee smuggling at the Nairobi Branch Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[92]

(*e*) Report on the audit of the private sector fund-raising activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees,[93]

(*f*) Report on the update of oversight activities concerning the oil-for-food programme and the United Nations Compensation Commission,[94]

(*g*) Report on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Department for Disarmament Affairs,[95]

(*h*) Report on the post-implementation review of the Integrated Management Information System at United Nations Headquarters,[96]

(*i*) Report on the inspection of programme management and administrative practices in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,[97]

(*j*) Report on the audit of the policies and procedures for recruiting staff for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations,[98]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Office of Internal Oversight Services listed above;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct, through the Office of Internal Oversight Services, a further audit of the policies and procedures for recruiting staff of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration at its resumed fifty-eighth session.

B

ENHANCING THE INTERNAL OVERSIGHT MECHANISMS IN OPERATIONAL FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

The General Assembly,

Recalling paragraph 11 of its resolution 48/218 B of 29 July 1994 and paragraph 15 of its resolution 54/244 of 23 December 1999,

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[88] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[89] See A/56/83.

[90] See A/56/689.

[91] See A/56/620.

[92] See A/56/733.

[93] See A/56/759.

[94] See A/56/903.

[95] See A/56/817.

[96] See A/56/879.

[97] See A/56/930.

[98] See A/57/224.

Recalling also its resolution 55/259 of 14 June 2001,

Having considered the updated report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes,[99]

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General containing updated views on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes,[100] submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 55/259,

1. *Takes note* of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General,[99] and reaffirms the prerogatives of the funds and programmes to decide their own oversight mechanisms and their relationship with the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly recommendations of the Office of Internal Oversight Services that require its approval prior to their implementation.

RESOLUTION 57/288

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/654, para. 6)[101]

57/288. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General, namely the first performance report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 for the biennium 2002–2003,[102] the report on the financial performance of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001,[103] the comprehensive report on the results of the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda,[104] as well as the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[105]

Recalling its resolutions 56/247 A of 24 December 2001 and 56/247 B of 27 March 2002 on the financing of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2002–2003,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[105]

2. *Takes note* of the utilization of the commitment authority authorized in its resolution 55/225 B of 12 April 2001;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the progress made by the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in reforming its legal aid system, particularly with regard to rationalizing the costs of defence counsel and establishing indigence, for the main part of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to present the proposed budget for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2004–2005 to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session in accordance with the following provisions:

(*a*) The budget should include detailed reference as to how the resources requested for the biennium will support the implementation of a sound and realistic completion strategy and the status of implementation of Board of Auditors recommendations, where relevant, with regard to specific items of proposed expenditure;

(*b*) The budget requirements for the Registry, the Office of the Prosecutor and the non-judicial, administrative functions of the Chambers should be presented in a results-based format linking objectives and inputs to expected accomplishments to be measured by indicators of achievement;

(*c*) Proposed allocations for costs for translation of documents and travel of witnesses should specify application and prior approval procedures by the Registrar to ensure they do not exceed demonstrated requirements;

(*d*) Proposals for defence costs should take into account experience to date in the revised lump-sum remuneration arrangements for defence counsel and the application of assessing contributions from defendants based on ability to pay and taking into account revised definitions of indigence and partial indigence;

(*e*) The proposed post structure for the biennium 2004–2005 should reflect reductions and shifts in requirements within the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia owing to the expected completion of investigations by 2004 and, where appropriate, address any new requirements for established posts through redeployment;

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[99] A/55/826 and Corr.1.

[100] A/56/823.

[101] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[102] A/57/480.

[103] A/57/367.

[104] A/56/853.

[105] A/57/593.

5. *Concurs* with the recommendation of the Board of Auditors in paragraph 62 of its report,[106] and invites the judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia to give due consideration to implementing fully a system of designating defence counsel at random from a list of available lawyers established by the Registrar's office;

6. *Notes with concern* that the posts approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/247 A and B for on-site audit and investigative services in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia have not been filled, and calls upon the Office of Internal Oversight Services to fill these positions without any further delay;

7. *Decides* that the financing for the unassessed expenditures incurred in 2001, in the amount of 413,600 United States dollars, shall be drawn from the unencumbered balance available in the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia;

8. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the amount of 248,926,200 dollars gross (223,169,800 dollars net), approved in its resolution 56/247 B for the budget of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, shall be increased by 13,727,500 dollars gross (12,785,200 dollars net), for a total amount of 262,653,700 dollars gross (235,955,000 dollars net);

9. *Decides* that the increases resulting from the recosting and the establishment of one additional trial team, in the amount of 13,727,500 dollars gross (12,785,200 dollars net), shall be drawn from the unencumbered balance available in the Special Account for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia as at 31 December 2001;

10. *Decides also* to apportion for the year 2003 the amount of 64,275,950 dollars gross (58,066,375 dollars net), including 6,863,750 dollars gross (6,392,600 dollars net), being the increase in assessments, among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2003 as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002;

11. *Decides further* to apportion for the year 2003 the amount of 64,275,950 dollars gross (58,066,375 dollars net), including 6,863,750 dollars gross (6,392,600 dollars net), being the increase in assessments, among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2003;

12. *Decides* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 10 and 11 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 26,763,400 dollars, including the amount of 1,007,000 dollars, being the increase in the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia for the biennium 2002–2003.

Annex

Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
1. Appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (resolution 56/247 B)	248 926 200	223 169 800
Add:		
2. Proposed changes for the biennium 2002–2003 (revised parameters/ standards and requirements for two additional trial teams)	14 060 300	13 053 300
Less:		
3. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the additional trial teams[a] (establishment of only one additional trial team)	(332 800)	(268 100)
4. Proposed revised appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (1+2–3)	262 653 700	235 955 000
Add:		
5. Unassessed expenditures in 2001[b]	413 600	-
6. Total amount to be financed (4+5)	263 067 300	235 955 000
Less:		
7. Amount to be financed from the unencumbered balance as at 31 December 2001[c] ((2–3)+5)	(14 141 100)	(12 785 200)
8. Balance to be assessed for the biennium 2002–2003 (6–7)	248 926 200	223 169 800
Less:		
9. Assessment for 2002	(120 374 300)	(107 037 050)
10. Balance to be assessed for 2003	128 551 900	116 132 750
Of which:		
11. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2003	64 275 950	58 066 375
12. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2003	64 275 950	58 066 375

[a] See A/57/593.

[b] See A/57/367.

[c] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5L* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.12 and Corr.1), chap. V, statement II (cumulative surplus of 16,371,000 dollars).

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[106] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5L* and corrigendum (A/57/5/Add.12 and Corr.1).

RESOLUTION 57/289

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/655, para. 6)[107]

57/289. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General, namely the first performance report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 for the biennium 2002–2003,[108] the report on the financial performance of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2001,[109] the comprehensive report on the results of the implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Group to Conduct a Review of the Effective Operation and Functioning of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Tribunal for Rwanda,[110] the report on the long-term financial obligations of the United Nations with regard to the enforcement of sentences[111] and the report on the conditions of service for the ad litem judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda,[112]

Having also considered the revised estimates arising in respect of Security Council resolution 1431 (2002) of 14 August 2002 on the establishment of ad litem judges in the International Tribunal for Rwanda,[113]

Having further considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[114]

Recalling its resolutions 56/248 A of 24 December 2001 and 56/248 B of 27 March 2002 on the financing of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the period from 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2003,

Taking note of Security Council resolution 1431 (2002) on the establishment of ad litem judges for the International Tribunal for Rwanda,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[114] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

2. *Notes with concern* that the vacancy rate at the International Tribunal for Rwanda remains at unacceptably high levels and that, by the end of 2002, the posts of Chief of Prosecution and Deputy Prosecutor will have been vacant for more than two years and nineteen months, respectively, despite information indicating that there was an abundance of qualified candidates in the region and elsewhere, and requests the Registrar of the Tribunal to ensure that the aforementioned posts are filled without further delay and to report thereon to the General Assembly no later than at its fifty-eighth session;

3. *Urges* the Secretary-General to request the Office of Internal Oversight Services to conduct a management review of the Office of the Prosecutor, paying particular attention to the problems which have arisen in filling these critical posts,[115] and to report thereon to the General Assembly no later than at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Notes with concern* that the posts approved by the General Assembly in its resolutions 56/248 A and B for on-site audit and investigative services in the International Tribunal for Rwanda have not been filled, and calls upon the Office of Internal Oversight Services to fill those positions without any further delay;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the long-term financial obligations of the United Nations with regard to the enforcement of sentences,[111] on the understanding that future budgetary requests on enforcement of sentences will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account legal, administrative and financial justification provided in support of each request;[116]

6. *Affirms* that it would be appropriate for the United Nations to bear the immediate costs arising from providing prisoners serving sentences imposed by the International Tribunal for Rwanda with a regime of imprisonment that is

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[107] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[108] A/57/481 and Corr.1.

[109] A/57/368.

[110] A/56/853.

[111] A/57/347.

[112] A/57/587.

[113] A/57/482.

[114] A/57/593.

[115] Ibid., para. 13.

[116] Ibid., para. 41.

consistent with those outlined in paragraph 17 of the report of the Secretary-General;[111]

7. *Invites* the Security Council to address uncertainties arising from issues identified in paragraphs 8, 42 and 43 of the report of the Secretary-General[111] and to provide guidance on possible amendments to the statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on these issues, including the consideration of the Security Council;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as an ad hoc and interim measure, to charge the costs related to the needs arising with regard to the enforcement of sentences within presently appropriated resources before the end of the biennium 2002–2003;

10. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in full cooperation with the International Tribunal for Rwanda, to ensure that due consideration is given in all future budget proposals for the Tribunal to the provision of resources to facilitate the enforcement of sentences;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure adequate oversight of prison facility upgrade projects and the subsequent maintenance of minimum international prison standards where those maintenance costs are borne by the United Nations;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assess the accuracy of the cost estimates proposed in his report on the enforcement of sentences,[111] to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, and to keep the cost estimates under periodic review;

13. *Urges* the International Tribunal for Rwanda to continue to consult closely with the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the development and implementation of its own completion strategy;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a comprehensive report on the progress made by the International Tribunal for Rwanda in reforming its legal aid system for consideration by the General Assembly at the main part of its fifty-eighth session;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session the proposed budget of the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2004–2005, which should include the following elements:

(*a*) The budget should include detailed information as to how the resources requested for the biennium will support the development of a sound and realistic completion strategy and the status of implementation of Board of Auditors recommendations, where relevant, with regard to specific items of proposed expenditure;

(*b*) The budget requirements for the Registry, the Office of the Prosecutor and the non-judicial, administrative functions of the Chambers should be presented in a results-based format linking objectives and inputs to expected accomplishments to be measured by indicators of achievement;

(*c*) Revised arrangements for preventing over-expenditures by defence counsel and for managing, monitoring and controlling the expenses of the legal aid system of the International Tribunal for Rwanda should be included in support of proposals for defence costs, including a full definition and establishment of quantitative criteria for determining indigence and partial indigence based on, inter alia, the defendants' circumstances and ability to pay;

(*d*) Proposed allocations for costs for travel of investigators should be supported by those procedures implemented by the Registrar in order not to exceed requirements;

(*e*) The proposed post structure for the biennium 2004–2005 should reflect reductions and shifts in requirements within the International Tribunal for Rwanda owing to the expected completion of investigations by 2003 and, where appropriate, address any new requirements for established posts through redeployment;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to consider the introduction, wherever feasible, in the International Tribunal for Rwanda of all measures undertaken in the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia that have proved effective with regard to controlling administrative costs, including maintaining efficient administrative and managerial functions;

17. *Approves* the additional resources for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for 2003 as recommended by the Advisory Committee, except that the staffing complement shall be reduced by four posts, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of ad litem judges and their impact in the second performance report for the biennium 2002–2003;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that optimum use is made of ad litem judges, following their introduction, to increase the number of court sessions and extend scheduled working hours;

19. *Decides* that the financing for the unassessed expenditures incurred in 2001, in the amount of 2,664,500 United States dollars gross (1,880,000 dollars net), shall be

drawn from the unencumbered balance in the Special Account for the International Tribunal for Rwanda;[117]

20. *Resolves* that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the amount of 197,127,300 dollars gross (177,739,400 dollars net), approved in its resolution 56/248 B for the budget of the International Tribunal for Rwanda, shall be adjusted by the amount of 4,657,600 dollars gross (4,254,100 dollars net) arising for ad litem judges in respect of Security Council resolution 1431 (2002) for a total amount of 201,784,900 dollars gross (181,993,500 dollars net);

21. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments, where necessary, in an amount not to exceed 2,177,700 dollars gross (879,200 dollars net) for the resource requirements of the International Tribunal for Rwanda to support the re-costing of resources for the biennium 2002–2003, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact thereof in the context of the second performance report for the biennium;

22. *Decides* to apportion for the year 2003 the amount of 53,047,600 dollars gross (47,759,100 dollars net), including 5,202,750 dollars gross (4,521,450 dollars net), being the increase in assessments among Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for the year 2003 as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002;

23. *Decides also* to apportion for the year 2003 the amount of 53,047,600 dollars gross (47,759,100 dollars net), including 5,202,750 dollars gross (4,521,450 dollars net), being the increase in assessments among Member States in accordance with the rates of assessment applicable to peacekeeping operations for the year 2003;

24. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraphs 22 and 23 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the amount of 19,791,400 dollars, including 403,500 dollars, being the increase of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the International Tribunal for Rwanda for the biennium 2002–2003.

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[117] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 5K* and corrigenda (A/57/5/Add.11 and Corr.1–3), chap. V, statement II (cumulative surplus of 5,507,000 dollars).

Annex

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994

	Gross	*Net*
	(United States dollars)	
1. Appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 (resolution 56/248 B)	197 127 300	177 739 400
Add:		
2. Projected changes for the biennium 2002–2003 (revised parameters/standards and requirements for defence counsel)[a]	2 177 700	879 200
3. Proposal for ad litem judges[b]	5 060 100	4 605 400
(*a*) Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on ad litem judges[c]	(282 100)	(245 500)
(*b*) Recommendations of the Fifth Committee	(120 400)	(105 800)
4. Proposed revised appropriation for the biennium 2002–2003 [1+2+3 -(3(*a*)+3 (*b*))]	203 962 600	182 872 700
Less:		
5. Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on projected changes as contained in the first performance report for the biennium 2002–2003 – commitment authority[d]	(2 177 700)	(879 200)
6. Total amount to be financed (4–5)	201 784 900	181 993 500
Less:		
7. Assessment for 2002	(95 689 700)	(86 475 300)
8. Balance to be assessed for 2003	106 095 200	95 518 200
Of which:		
9. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to the regular budget of the United Nations for 2003	53 047 600	47 759 100
10. Contributions assessed on Member States in accordance with the scale of assessments applicable to peacekeeping operations for 2003	53 047 600	47 759 100

[a] See A/57/481 and Corr.1.

[b] See A/57/482.

[c] See A/57/593.

[d] See paragraph 21 of the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/290

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/656, para. 6)[118]

57/290. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/217 of 23 December 1992, 55/235 and 55/236 of 23 December 2000, 57/1 of 10 September 2002, 57/3 of 27 September 2002 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002,

1. *Decides* that, in accordance with the criteria established by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/235, Switzerland will be assigned to level B under the system of adjustments used for establishing rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations;

2. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the same criteria, Timor-Leste will be assigned to level I under the system of adjustments used for establishing rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations;

3. *Decides further* that, in the case of appropriations or apportionments approved by the General Assembly for the financing of peacekeeping operations, the contributions of Switzerland and Timor-Leste, as determined by their respective levels under the system of adjustments used for establishing effective rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations, should be calculated in proportion to the calendar year;

4. *Decides* that the assessments of Switzerland and Timor-Leste for the year 2002 should be taken into account as miscellaneous income in accordance with regulation 5.2 (*c*) of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

5. *Notes* that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 47/217, the assessments of Switzerland and Timor-Leste for the Peacekeeping Reserve Fund should be calculated by the application of their first rates of assessment for peacekeeping operations to the authorized level of the Fund.

RESOLUTION 57/291

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/657, para. 6)[119]

57/291. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone[120] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[121]

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 1270 (1999) of 22 October 1999 concerning the establishment of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council revised and extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1436 (2002) of 24 September 2002,

Recalling its resolution 53/29 of 20 November 1998 on the financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Sierra Leone and subsequent resolutions on the financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone, the latest of which was resolution 56/251 B of 27 June 2002,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with sufficient financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[121]

2. *Decides*, taking into account the amount of 532,469,200 United States dollars previously apportioned under the terms of General Assembly resolution 56/251 B, to apportion among Member States the additional amount of 90 million dollars at a monthly rate of 7.5 million dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, comprising 67.5 million dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 31 March 2003 and 22.5 million dollars for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2003, in accordance with the levels set out in General Assembly resolution 55/235 of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of the same date and its resolution 57/290 of 20 December 2002, and taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 2002 and 2003 as set out in its resolution 55/5 B of 23 December 2000, as adjusted by the Assembly in its resolution 57/4 B of 20 December 2002, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

3. *Decides also* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 2 above, their respective share in the

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[118] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[119] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[120] A/57/619.

[121] A/57/633.

Tax Equalization Fund of 326,400 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, at a monthly rate of 27,200 dollars, comprising 244,800 dollars for the period from 1 July 2002 to 31 March 2003 and 81,600 dollars for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2003, in addition to the estimated staff assessment income in the amount of 9,004,200 dollars previously approved under the terms of Assembly resolution 56/251 B;

4. *Decides further* to keep under review during its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone".

RESOLUTION 57/292

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/649, para. 80)[122]

57/292. Questions relating to the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

The General Assembly,

I

Plan to increase the regular budget component of the United Nations Office at Nairobi

Recalling paragraph 163 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, by which it requested the Secretary-General to bring the financial arrangements of the United Nations Office at Nairobi into line with those of similar United Nations administrative offices,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the plan to increase the regular budget component of the United Nations Office at Nairobi,[123] and endorses the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[124]

2. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to continue to strengthen the United Nations Office at Nairobi, and urges him to increase the regular budget component of the Office in future bienniums so as to ensure that the Office is able fully to execute programmes and activities within its mandate;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the provisions of the present resolution in the context of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

II

Capital master plan

Recalling its resolutions 54/249 of 23 December 1999, 55/238 of 23 December 2000, 56/234 and 56/236 of 24 December 2001 and 56/286 of 27 June 2002,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan,[125]

Having also considered the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[126]

1. *Takes note with concern* of the hazards, risks and deficiencies of the current condition of the United Nations Headquarters complex, and concurs with the Secretary-General that a decision on viable solutions must be made to ameliorate those conditions;

2. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the capital master plan;[125]

3. *Also takes note* of the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[126] and endorses the observations and recommendations contained therein, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Welcomes with appreciation* the offer of support from the City and State of New York, and acknowledges their efforts to make possible the implementation of the capital master plan;

Scope of the capital master plan

5. *Decides* to implement the capital master plan on the basis of the baseline scope under the first approach to phasing and swing space, with a projected construction budget of 1,049 million United States dollars,[127] a variance of plus or minus 10 per cent, that is, a range currently estimated at 944.1 million to 1,153.9 million dollars, a proposed construction start date of October 2004 and a construction duration of five years;

6. *Notes* that the projected budget should be increased by up to 144 million dollars should the Assembly decide to implement any of the scope options referred to in paragraph 11 below;

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[122] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[123] A/57/362.

[124] A/57/7/Add.3, sect. A. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7*.

[125] A/57/285.

[126] A/57/7/Add.4. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7*.

[127] The amount of 1,049 million dollars, with a variance of plus or minus 10 per cent, assumes a construction start date of October 2004 and reflects a baseline scope estimate of 991 million dollars, a swing space estimate of 96 million dollars, a decrease of 17 million dollars in respect of previously approved security measures, a decrease of 57 million dollars in respect of the exclusion of a new large conference room and multi-function hall in the existing complex and the addition of 36 million dollars in respect of the inclusion of the replacement of the curtain wall.

7. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to proceed with the remaining phases of design development and construction documentation, bearing in mind the provisions set out below;

Baseline scope

8. *Approves* the implementation of the baseline scope as amended by the exclusion of the proposed new large conference room and multi-function hall in the parking garage;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session plans for the three additional conference rooms foreseen in the baseline scope, including the information used to determine the need for such additional space and the size of each room;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in those plans viable solutions for allowing natural light into the rooms, with a view to ensuring occupationally healthy conditions;

Scope options

11. *Approves* the inclusion in the design documents of the proposed scope options for security, redundancy and contingency and sustainability within the design work for the capital master plan, without prejudice to the final decision to be made by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with regard to the scope options to be included, and also approves the contingency plans for retaining the proposed new large conference room and multi-function hall in the parking garage of the United Nations Headquarters complex;

Swing space

12. *Endorses* the proposal of the Secretary-General, in line with the first approach to phasing and swing space, to complete the negotiations with the City of New York for the construction and lease purchase of a new United Nations consolidated building on a section of the Robert Moses Playground, including the cost of providing alternative park amenities for the community to compensate for the loss of part of the playground;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a permanent large conference room and a permanent multi-function hall in a design of the new United Nations consolidated building;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that, in addressing the design of the United Nations consolidated building, the necessary security and environmental parameters are respected;

15. *Approves*, in principle, the approach of the Secretary-General that the acquisition of the United Nations consolidated building will be made through a lease-purchase agreement with the United Nations, upon the expiry of which the building and the land on which it stands would be owned by the United Nations;

Parking

16. *Takes note with concern* of the existing difficulties with regard to the availability of parking at the United Nations;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to study all viable options to ensure sufficient parking spaces so as to meet the existing and future needs of diplomatic missions and Secretariat staff within the projected overall budget of the capital master plan, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session in the context of its consideration of the capital master plan;

Management and oversight

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to put in place strict control standards for all phases of the plan prior to and during its implementation, defining the precise refurbishment work to be done and the technical results to be achieved so as to ensure that there are no cost overruns associated with the overall project, that the project is completed successfully within the envisaged time frame and budget and within the agreed technical specifications, that there are financial penalties for contractors in the case of non-respect of deadlines and that there is a guarantee which will ensure the long-term quality of the work undertaken;

19. *Concurs* with the intention of the Secretary-General to establish an independent and impartial advisory board, as outlined in paragraph 66 of his report,[125] and requests him, in establishing the board, to reflect wide geographical representation;

20. *Takes note* of the information included in paragraph 75 of the report of the Secretary-General[125] and of the fact that the Board of Auditors, in order to avoid a conflict of interest, did not assume responsibility for the validation of initial project costs;

21. *Stresses* in this regard the importance, as a matter of transparency, of the Secretary-General reporting to the General Assembly on such situations;

22. *Also stresses* the importance of oversight with respect to the development and implementation of the capital master plan, and requests the Board of Auditors and all other relevant oversight bodies to initiate immediate oversight activities and to report annually thereon to the General Assembly;

23. *Takes note* of annexes II and III to the report of the Secretary-General,[125] and requests the Secretary-General to issue a corrigendum that reflects the current organizational

structure of the Secretariat for managing the capital master plan, both at present and over the course of its implementation;[128]

Appropriation and funding

24. *Decides* that a special account for the capital master plan should be established, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements in this regard, in accordance with the provisions of regulation 6.6 of the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

25. *Also decides* to appropriate 25.5 million dollars to the special account for the capital master plan for the biennium 2002–2003, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on the scale of assessments applicable for the biennium 2002–2003, for design and related project management and management of pre-construction services for the baseline scope and scope options;

26. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments of up to 26 million dollars for the biennium 2004–2005 to provide for the remaining work, related project management and management of pre-construction services for the baseline scope and scope options;

27. *Welcomes* the preparedness of the Secretary-General to initiate a campaign to encourage and secure private donations;

28. *Reaffirms* the importance of continuing efforts to secure financial resources from the public and private sectors for upgrading facilities and equipment, including the participation of private companies in infrastructural improvements, where such participation has no financial implications for the Organization, and also reaffirms that the acceptance of any donation should conform to the international and intergovernmental character of the Organization and should be in full compliance with the Financial Regulations and Rules of the United Nations;

29. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on:

(*a*) The status of possible funding arrangements, including a financial package to be provided by the host country;

(*b*) Other contributions and his efforts to secure such contributions from public and private sources;

(*c*) All aspects of the outcome of negotiations with the City and State of New York;

(*d*) The progress of the design work;

Procurement

30. *Requests* the Secretary-General, considering the need to continue to explore ways to increase procurement opportunities for vendors from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to take the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 54/14 of 29 October 1999 and 55/247 of 12 April 2001 on procurement reform fully into consideration in the implementation of the capital master plan;

31. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to it on an annual basis on the awarding of contracts for procurement for the capital master plan;

Final provisions

32. *Decides* that none of the provisions of the present resolution, with the exception of paragraphs 24 to 26 and all requested design specifications, are binding in the event that the City and State of New York cannot fulfil their commitments to the capital master plan and if the host country does not offer a financing package to cover the project, described in paragraph 5 of the present section;

33. *Also decides* to revert to the issue of the financing of the capital master plan at its fifty-eighth session;

34. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to it annual progress reports on the implementation of the capital master plan;

III

Estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized[129] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[130]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the estimates in respect of matters of which the Security Council is seized,[129] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in its report;[130]

2. *Approves*, under the procedures provided for in paragraph 11 of annex I to its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, an additional appropriation of 60,039,000 dollars for the nineteen special political missions presented in the report of the Secretary-General under section 3, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

3. *Also approves* an appropriation of 8,183,100 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, to be offset by a corresponding amount under Income section 1, Income from

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[128] The corrigendum was subsequently issued as A/57/285/Corr.1.

[129] A/C.5/57/23.

[130] A/57/7/Add.17. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7*.

staff assessment, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

IV

Strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat

Recalling paragraph 103 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat[131] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[132]

1. *Reaffirms* the priorities of the Organization as set out in the medium-term plan for the period 2002–2005,[133] namely:

(*a*) Maintenance of international peace and security;

(*b*) Promotion of sustained economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and recent United Nations conferences;

(*c*) Development of Africa;

(*d*) Promotion of human rights;

(*e*) Effective coordination of humanitarian assistance efforts;

(*f*) Promotion of justice and international law;

(*g*) Disarmament;

(*h*) Drug control, crime prevention and combating international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

2. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office on Drugs and Crime[134] of the Secretariat in contributing to the prevention of international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as mandated and reflected in the medium-term plan;[135]

3. *Further reaffirms* the role of the Centre in providing, at the request of Member States, technical assistance in the prevention of international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

4. *Approves*, as a charge against the contingency fund, an amount of 230,900 dollars for one D-1, one P-4, one P-3 and two General Service (Other level) posts under section 14, Crime prevention and criminal justice, of the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 and a related amount of 55,600 dollars under section 32, Staff assessment, offset by the amount of 55,600 dollars under income section 1, Income from staff assessment, and decides that the balance of resource requirements as detailed in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General[136] shall be reflected in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005;

V

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Recalling its resolutions 47/227 of 8 April 1993 and 56/208 of 21 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research[137] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[138]

1. *Emphasizes* the need to find a viable financial solution to ensure the future effective functioning of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

2. *Notes with concern* that the Institute has accumulated a debt to the United Nations and to the Fondation immobilière pour organisations internationales owing to lack of payment of rent and maintenance for its liaison offices in New York and Geneva;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, on the basis of consultations with the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the financial viability of the Institute, including the status of all voluntary contributions and the payment of the accumulated debt of the Institute, as well as on provisions offered to other comparable organizations;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to address, in the context of the programme budget for the biennium 2004–2005, based on the aforementioned consultations with the Institute, specific proposals and options on how best to address the issue of its past and future maintenance and rental costs, drawing on the provisions made for other organizations associated with the United Nations;

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[131] A/57/152 and Corr.1, A/57/152/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and A/57/152/Add.2.

[132] A/57/7/Add.13. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[133] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1), para. 26.

[134] Formerly known as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention.

[135] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/55/6/Rev.1), programme 12.

[136] A/57/152/Add.2.

[137] A/57/479.

[138] A/57/7/Add.15. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.*

VI

First performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

Having considered the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003[139] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[140]

1. *Reaffirms* the budgetary process as approved in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and as reaffirmed in subsequent resolutions;

2. *Also reaffirms* its resolutions 56/253 and 56/254 A to C of 24 December 2001 and 56/274 B, 56/286 and 56/287 of 27 June 2002;

3. *Takes note* of the first performance report of the Secretary-General on the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003,[139] and endorses the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[140] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

4. *Decides* to appropriate an amount of 6,896,100 dollars to support the meeting requirements of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for the period from 1 January 2002 to 31 March 2003 in the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 as follows: 6,531,900 dollars under section 2, General Assembly affairs and conference services, and 364,200 dollars under section 27 D, Office of Central Support Services;

5. *Notes* the continued unpredictability of the service requirements for the activities of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the scope for absorption of some or all of the costs related to the servicing of the Committee;

6. *Reiterates* paragraph 2 of its resolution 56/288 of 27 June 2002, in which it requested the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of conference and support services to the Counter-Terrorism Committee without adversely affecting other conference services;

7. *Decides* to consider further the conference and support servicing of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for 2003 in the light of the review by the Security Council of the activities of the Committee;

8. *Decides also* to approve 9.9 million dollars for realized vacancy rates in 2002 and to consider the actual realized vacancy rates for 2003 in the context of the second performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003;

9. *Reiterates* paragraphs 133 to 136 of its resolution 56/253;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide information on regular budget expenditures on a quarterly basis in the appropriate format;

11. *Notes with deep concern* the serious and continuing deterioration in the business of the United Nations Postal Administration;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, as a matter of priority, that the continuing downward trend in the business of the United Nations Postal Administration is reversed, considering all possible courses of action for the future conduct of its business, and to report thereon to the General Assembly in the context of the second performance report;

13. *Approves* a net increase of 176,866,900 dollars in the appropriation approved for the biennium 2002–2003 and a net increase of 2,807,300 dollars in the estimates of income for the biennium, to be apportioned among expenditure and income sections as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General;[139]

VII

Contingency fund: consolidated statement of programme budget implications and revised estimates

Notes that a balance of 31,200 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

RESOLUTIONS 57/293 A to C

Adopted at the 78th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/649, para. 80)[141]

57/293. Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003

A

REVISED BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002–2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the amount of 2,699,267,800 United States dollars appropriated by it in its resolutions 56/254 A of 24 December 2001 and 56/274 B and 56/286 of 27 June 2002 shall be adjusted by 191,550,900 dollars, as follows:

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[139] A/57/616.

[140] A/57/7/Add.16. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[141] The draft resolutions recommended in the report were introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

Section			Amount approved in resolutions 56/254 A, 56/274 B and 56/286	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
			(United States dollars)		
Part I.	*Overall policy-making, direction and coordination*				
	1.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination	49 365 800	1 263 000	50 628 800
	2.	General Assembly affairs and conference services	449 775 300	20 817 600	470 592 900
		Total, part I	**499 141 100**	**22 080 600**	**521 221 700**
Part II.	*Political affairs*				
	3.	Political affairs	165 579 400	85 970 900	251 550 300
	4.	Disarmament	15 432 300	388 800	15 821 100
	5.	Peacekeeping operations	73 600 700	4 599 400	78 200 100
	6.	Peaceful uses of outer space	4 044 800	270 500	4 315 300
		Total, part II	**258 657 200**	**91 229 600**	**349 886 800**
Part III.	*International justice and law*				
	7.	International Court of Justice	23 837 300	2 478 600	26 315 900
	8.	Legal affairs	35 265 800	488 700	35 754 500
		Total, part III	**59 103 100**	**2 967 300**	**62 070 400**
Part IV.	*International cooperation for development*				
	9.	Economic and social affairs	121 043 400	2 608 800	123 652 200
	9A.	Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries	3 055 600	43 900	3 099 500
	10.	Africa: New Agenda for Development	5 932 700	119 600	6 052 300
	11A.	Trade and development	84 858 400	6 437 400	91 295 800
	11B.	International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO	18 022 600	1 351 300	19 373 900
	12.	Environment	7 660 200	694 900	8 355 100
	13.	Human settlements	11 541 800	1 252 400	12 794 200
	14.	Crime prevention and criminal justice	5 733 800	606 000	6 339 800
	15.	International drug control	15 289 100	1 004 600	16 293 700
		Total, part IV	**273 137 600**	**14 118 900**	**287 256 500**
Part V.	*Regional cooperation for development*				
	16.	Economic and social development in Africa	80 845 700	3 020 200	83 865 900
	17.	Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific	53 396 200	5 425 100	58 821 300
	18.	Economic development in Europe	40 605 900	3 192 900	43 798 800
	19.	Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean	69 399 400	3 811 100	73 210 500
	20.	Economic and social development in Western Asia	50 140 200	(297 400)	49 842 800
	21.	Regular programme of technical cooperation	42 749 600	121 900	42 871 500
		Total, part V	**337 137 000**	**15 273 800**	**352 410 800**
Part VI.	*Human rights and humanitarian affairs*				
	22.	Human rights	44 727 100	2 849 200	47 576 300
	23.	Protection of and assistance to refugees	42 890 400	3 065 600	45 956 000
	24.	Palestine refugees	24 828 400	3 450 300	28 278 700
	25.	Humanitarian assistance	20 011 600	565 800	20 577 400
		Total, part VI	**132 457 500**	**9 930 900**	**142 388 400**
Part VII.	*Public information*				
	26.	Public information	144 719 200	2 388 400	147 107 600
		Total, part VII	**144 719 200**	**2 388 400**	**147 107 600**

Section		Amount approved in resolutions 56/254 A, 56/274 B and 56/286	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
		(United States dollars)		
Part VIII.	*Common support services*			
	27. Management and central support services	440 883 600	10 458 500	451 342 100
	Total, part VIII	**440 883 600**	**10 458 500**	**451 342 100**
Part IX.	*Internal oversight*			
	28. Internal oversight	20 296 900	649 700	20 946 600
	Total, part IX	**20 296 900**	**649 700**	**20 946 600**
Part X.	*Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses*			
	29. Jointly financed administrative activities	8 436 600	323 000	8 759 600
	30. Special expenses	70 987 500	6 098 100	77 085 600
	Total, part X	**79 424 100**	**6 421 100**	**85 845 200**
Part XI.	*Capital expenditures*			
	31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	87 254 500	1 086 600	88 341 100
	Total, part XI	**87 254 500**	**1 086 600**	**88 341 100**
Part XII.	*Staff assessment*			
	32. Staff assessment	353 991 000	14 945 500	368 936 500
	Total, part XII	**353 991 000**	**14 945 500**	**368 936 500**
Part XIII.	*Development Account*			
	33. Development Account	13 065 000	-	13 065 000
	Total, part XIII	**13 065 000**	**-**	**13 065 000**
	Grand total	**2 699 267 800**	**191 550 900**	**2 890 818 700**

B

REVISED INCOME ESTIMATES FOR THE BIENNIUM 2002–2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the biennium 2002–2003, the estimates of income of 410,036,100 United States dollars approved by it in its resolutions 56/254 A of 24 December 2001 and 56/274 B and 56/286 of 27 June 2002 shall be increased by 4,393,500 dollars, as follows:

Income section	Amount approved in resolutions 56/254 A, 56/274 B and 56/286	Increase/ (decrease)	Revised appropriation
	(United States dollars)		
1. Income from staff assessment	358 278 500	14 769 600	373 048 100
Total	**358 278 500**	**14 769 600**	**373 048 100**
2. General income	47 283 200	(5 330 000)	41 953 200
3. Services to the public	4 474 400	(5 046 100)	(571 700)
Total	**51 757 600**	**(10 376 100)**	**41 381 500**
Grand total	**410 036 100**	**4 393 500**	**414 429 600**

C

FINANCING OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2003

The General Assembly

Resolves that, for the year 2003:

1. Budget appropriations totalling 1,606,290,850 United States dollars and consisting of 1,312,589,350 dollars, being half of the appropriations initially approved for the biennium 2002–2003 in its resolution 56/254 C of 24 December 2001, 14,728,900 dollars and 59,360,200 dollars, being additional appropriations approved for the biennium 2002–2003 in its resolutions 56/274 B and 56/286 of 27 June 2002, 191,550,900 dollars, being the increase approved by the General Assembly in resolution A above, plus 28,061,500 dollars, being the increase in the final appropriations for the biennium 2000–2001 approved in its resolutions 56/240 A of 24 December 2001 and 56/240 C of 27 March 2002, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations, as follows:

(*a*) 37,259,284 dollars, consisting of:

(i) 25,878,800 dollars, being half of the estimated income other than income from staff assessment approved for the biennium 2002–2003 by the Assembly in its resolution 56/254 B of 24 December 2001;

(ii) Less 10,376,100 dollars, being the decrease approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(iii) 237,244 dollars, being the unencumbered balance of the final appropriations for the biennium 2000–2001 as at 31 December 2001;

(iv) 26,748,816 dollars, being the savings from liquidations of prior-period obligations as at 31 December 2001;

(v) 5,077 dollars, being the net balance of the contributions of new Member States, offset by other adjustments to fund balances as at 31 December 2001;

(vi) Less 5,234,553 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment for the biennium 2000–2001 compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 55/239 B of 23 December 2000;

(*b*) 1,569,031,566 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with its resolutions 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002 on the scale of assessments for the year 2003;

2. There shall be set off against the assessment on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 204,230,264 dollars, consisting of:

(*a*) 176,268,900 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 56/254 B;

(*b*) 4,165,800 dollars, being the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 56/274 B;

(*c*) 1,574,900 dollars, being the estimated staff assessment income approved by the Assembly in its resolution 56/286;

(*d*) 14,769,600 dollars, being the estimated increase in income from staff assessment approved by the Assembly in resolution B above;

(*e*) 7,451,064 dollars, being the increase in income from staff assessment for the biennium 2000–2001 compared with the revised estimates approved by the Assembly in its resolution 55/239 B of 23 December 2000.

VII. Resolutions adopted on the reports of the Sixth Committee

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RESOLUTION 57/14

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/559, para. 8)[1]

57/14. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 32/44 of 8 December 1977, 34/51 of 23 November 1979, 37/116 of 16 December 1982, 39/77 of 13 December 1984, 41/72 of 3 December 1986, 43/161 of 9 December 1988, 45/38 of 28 November 1990, 47/30 of 25 November 1992, 49/48 of 9 December 1994, 51/155 of 16 December 1996, 53/96 of 8 December 1998 and 55/148 of 12 December 2000,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

Thanking Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross for their contribution to the report of the Secretary-General,

Convinced of the continuing value of established humanitarian rules relating to armed conflicts and the need to respect and ensure respect for those rules in all circumstances within the scope of the relevant international instruments, pending the earliest possible termination of such conflicts,

Stressing the possibility of making use of the International Fact-Finding Commission in relation to an armed conflict, pursuant to article 90 of Protocol I,[3] and recalling that the International Fact-Finding Commission may, where necessary, facilitate through its good offices the restoration of an attitude of respect for the Geneva Conventions[4] and the Protocol,

Stressing also the need for consolidating the existing body of international humanitarian law through its universal acceptance and the need for wide dissemination and full implementation of such law at the national level, and expressing concern about all violations of the Geneva Conventions and the two Additional Protocols,[5]

Noting with satisfaction the increasing number of national commissions and other bodies involved in advising authorities at the national level on the implementation, dissemination and development of international humanitarian law,

Noting with appreciation the meeting of representatives of those bodies organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross at Geneva from 25 to 27 March 2002 to facilitate the sharing of concrete experience and an exchange of views on their roles and on the challenges they face,

Mindful of the role of the International Committee of the Red Cross in offering protection to the victims of armed conflicts,

Noting with appreciation the continuing efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross to promote and disseminate knowledge of international humanitarian law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the two Additional Protocols,

Recalling that the Twenty-sixth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent endorsed the recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on the Protection of War Victims, including the recommendation that the depositary of the Geneva Conventions should organize periodic meetings of States parties to the Conventions to consider general problems regarding the application of international humanitarian law,

Welcoming the adoption, at The Hague on 26 March 1999, of a second Protocol[6] to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict,[7] and appreciating the ratifications received so far,

Acknowledging the fact that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[8] which entered into force on 1 July 2002, includes the most serious crimes of international concern under international humanitarian law, and that the Statute, while recalling that it is the duty of every State to exercise its criminal jurisdiction over those responsible for such crimes, shows the determination of the international community to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of such crimes and thus to contribute to their prevention,

Acknowledging the usefulness of discussing in the General Assembly the status of instruments of international humanitarian law relevant to the protection of victims of armed conflicts,

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[1] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Yugoslavia and Zambia.

[2] A/57/164 and Add.1.

[3] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1125, No. 17512.

[4] Ibid., vol. 75, Nos. 970–973.

[5] Ibid., vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

[6] *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXXVIII, p. 769.

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 249, No. 3511.

[8] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

Noting the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Additional Protocols to the Geneva Conventions, which was observed in June 2002, as well as the commemorative events, organized in particular by Switzerland and the International Committee of the Red Cross, recalling the important achievement of enhancing the protection of civilians in armed conflicts,

1. *Appreciates* the virtually universal acceptance of the Geneva Conventions of 1949,[4] and notes the trend towards a similarly wide acceptance of the two Additional Protocols of 1977;[5]

2. *Appeals* to all States parties to the Geneva Conventions that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Additional Protocols at the earliest possible date;

3. *Calls upon* all States that are already parties to Protocol I,[3] or those States not parties, on becoming parties to Protocol I, to make the declaration provided for under article 90 of that Protocol;

4. *Calls upon* all States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the 1954 Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict[7] and the two Protocols thereto, and to other relevant treaties on international humanitarian law relating to the protection of victims of armed conflict;

5. *Calls upon* all States parties to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions to ensure their wide dissemination and full implementation;

6. *Notes with appreciation* the Plan of Action adopted by the Twenty-seventh International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, in particular the reiteration of the importance of universal adherence to treaties on humanitarian law and their effective implementation at the national level, and welcomes the efforts made by many States towards the fulfilment of their pledges relating to international humanitarian law made at that Conference;

7. *Affirms* the necessity of making the implementation of international humanitarian law more effective;

8. *Welcomes* the advisory service activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross in supporting efforts made by Member States to take legislative and administrative action to implement international humanitarian law and in promoting the exchange of information on those efforts between Governments;

9. *Welcomes also* the increasing numbers of national commissions or committees for the implementation of international humanitarian law and for promoting the incorporation of treaties on international humanitarian law into national law and disseminating the rules of international humanitarian law;

10. *Welcomes further* the entry into force on 12 February 2002 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict,[9] and calls upon all States to consider becoming parties to that Protocol;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report on the status of the Additional Protocols relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts, as well as on measures taken to strengthen the existing body of international humanitarian law, inter alia, with respect to its dissemination and full implementation at the national level, based on information received from Member States and the International Committee of the Red Cross;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts".

RESOLUTION 57/15

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/560, para. 7)[10]

57/15. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General,[11]

Conscious of the need to develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation among States,

Convinced that respect for the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations is a basic prerequisite for the normal conduct of relations among States and for the fulfilment of the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Dismayed by the recent acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives, as well as against representatives of international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, which have endangered or taken innocent lives and seriously impeded the normal work of such representatives and officials,

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[9] Resolution 54/263, annex I.

[10] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belize, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Marshall Islands, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay.

[11] A/57/99 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and 2 and A/INF/56/6 and Add.1.

Expressing sympathy for the victims of such illegal acts,

Concerned at the failure to respect the inviolability of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

Recalling that, without prejudice to their privileges and immunities, it is the duty of all persons enjoying such privileges and immunities to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State,

Recalling also that diplomatic and consular premises must not be used in any manner incompatible with the functions of diplomatic and consular missions,

Emphasizing the duty of States to take all appropriate measures as required by international law, including measures of a preventive nature, and to bring offenders to justice,

Welcoming measures already taken by States to this end in conformity with their international obligations,

Convinced that the role of the United Nations, which includes the reporting procedures established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 35/168 of 15 December 1980 and further elaborated in subsequent Assembly resolutions, is important in promoting efforts to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[11]

2. *Strongly condemns* acts of violence against diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as against missions and representatives of international intergovernmental organizations and officials of such organizations, and emphasizes that such acts can never be justified;

3. *Urges* States strictly to observe, implement and enforce the principles and rules of international law governing diplomatic and consular relations and, in particular, to ensure in conformity with their international obligations the protection, security and safety of the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above officially present in territories under their jurisdiction, including practical measures to prohibit in their territories illegal activities of persons, groups and organizations that encourage, instigate, organize or engage in the perpetration of acts against the security and safety of such missions, representatives and officials;

4. *Also urges* States to take all necessary measures at the national and international levels to prevent any acts of violence against the missions, representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, and to ensure, with the participation of the United Nations where appropriate, that such acts are fully investigated with a view to bringing offenders to justice;

5. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely through, inter alia, contacts between the diplomatic and consular missions and the receiving State with regard to practical measures designed to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives and with regard to the exchange of information on the circumstances of all serious violations thereof;

6. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures, in accordance with international law, at the national and international levels, to prevent any abuse of diplomatic or consular privileges and immunities, in particular serious abuses, including those involving acts of violence;

7. *Recommends* that States cooperate closely with the State in whose territory abuses of diplomatic and consular privileges and immunities may have occurred, including by exchanging information and providing assistance to its juridical authorities in order to bring offenders to justice;

8. *Calls upon* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the instruments relevant to the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives;

9. *Calls upon* States, in cases where a dispute arises in connection with a violation of their international obligations concerning the protection of the missions or the security of the representatives and officials mentioned in paragraph 2 above, to make use of the means available for peaceful settlement of disputes, including the good offices of the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General, when he deems it appropriate, to offer his good offices to the States directly concerned;

10. *Requests*:

(*a*) All States to report to the Secretary-General as promptly as possible serious violations of the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

(*b*) The State in which the violation occurred – and, to the extent possible, the State where the alleged offender is present – to report to the Secretary-General as promptly as possible on measures taken to bring the offender to justice and eventually to communicate, in accordance with its laws, the final outcome of the proceedings against the offender, and to report on measures adopted with a view to preventing a repetition of such violations;

(*c*) The States so reporting to consider using or taking into account the guidelines prepared by the Secretary-General;[12]

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(*a*) To send, without delay, a circular note to all States reminding them of the request contained in paragraph 10 above;

(*b*) To circulate to all States, upon receipt, the reports received by him pursuant to paragraph 10 above, unless the reporting State requests otherwise;

(*c*) To draw the attention, when appropriate, of the States directly concerned to the reporting procedures provided for in paragraph 10 above, when a serious violation has been reported pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above;

(*d*) To address reminders to States where such violations have occurred if reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*a*) above or follow-up reports pursuant to paragraph 10 (*b*) above have not been made within a reasonable period of time;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to invite States, in the circular note referred to in paragraph 11 (*a*) above, to inform him of their views with respect to any measures needed or already taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations;

13. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a report containing:

(*a*) Information on the state of ratification of, and accessions to, the instruments referred to in paragraph 8 above;

(*b*) A summary of the reports received and views expressed pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 12 above;

14. *Invites* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly any views he may wish to express on the matters referred to in paragraph 13 above;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".

RESOLUTION 57/16

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/561, para. 7)[13]

57/16. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 46/55 of 9 December 1991, 49/61 of 9 December 1994, 52/151 of 15 December 1997, 53/98 of 8 December 1998, 54/101 of 9 December 1999, 55/150 of 12 December 2000 and 56/78 of 12 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property,[14] established pursuant to resolution 55/150,

Noting that only a few issues remain outstanding,

Stressing the importance of uniformity and clarity in the law applicable to jurisdictional immunities of States and their property,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property;[14]

2. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall be reconvened from 24 to 28 February 2003 in order to make a final attempt at consolidating areas of agreement and resolving outstanding issues, with a view to elaborating a generally acceptable instrument based on the draft articles on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property adopted by the International Law Commission at its forty-third session,[15] and also on the discussions of the open-ended working group of the Sixth Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee and their results,[16] as well as to recommend a form for the instrument;

3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the outcome of its work;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property".

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[12] A/42/485, annex.

[13] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[14] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/57/22).

[15] *Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1991*, vol. II, Part Two (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.V.9 (Part 2)), document A/46/10, chap. II, para. 28.

[16] See A/C.6/54/L.12 and A/C.6/55/L.12. See also *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fourth Session, Sixth Committee*, 30th meeting (A/C.6/54/SR.30), and corrigendum; ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Sixth Committee*, 30th and 31st meetings (A/C.6/55/SR.30 and 31), and corrigendum; ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 22* (A/57/22); and ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Sixth Committee*, 18th and 19th meetings (A/C.6/57/SR.18 and 19).

RESOLUTION 57/17

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/562 and Corr.1, para. 15)[17]

57/17. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fifth session

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Reaffirming its belief that the progressive harmonization and unification of international trade law, in reducing or removing legal obstacles to the flow of international trade, especially those affecting the developing countries, would contribute significantly to universal economic cooperation among all States on a basis of equality, equity and common interest and to the elimination of discrimination in international trade and, thereby, to the well-being of all peoples,

Having considered the report of the Commission on its thirty-fifth session,[18]

Concerned that activities undertaken by other bodies of the United Nations system in the field of international trade law without adequate coordination with the Commission might lead to undesirable duplication of efforts and would not be in keeping with the aim of promoting efficiency, consistency and coherence in the unification and harmonization of international trade law, as stated in its resolution 37/106 of 16 December 1982,

Reaffirming the mandate of the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, to coordinate legal activities in this field,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on its thirty-fifth session;[18]

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the completion and adoption by the Commission of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation;[19]

3. *Commends* the Commission for the progress made in its work on arbitration, insolvency law, electronic commerce, privately financed infrastructure projects, security interests and transport law;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance, in particular for developing countries, of the work of the Commission concerned with training and technical assistance in the field of international trade law, and in this connection:

(*a*) Expresses its appreciation to the Commission for organizing seminars and briefing missions in Brazil, Cambodia, Ecuador, Indonesia and Viet Nam;

(*b*) Expresses its appreciation to the Governments whose contributions enabled the seminars and briefing missions to take place, and appeals to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Trust Fund for Symposia and, where appropriate, to the financing of special projects, and otherwise to assist the secretariat of the Commission in financing and organizing seminars and symposia, in particular in developing countries, and in the award of fellowships to candidates from developing countries to enable them to participate in such seminars and symposia;

(*c*) Reiterates its appeal to the United Nations Development Programme and other bodies responsible for development assistance, such as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and regional development banks, as well as to Governments in their bilateral aid programmes, to support the training and technical assistance programme of the Commission and to cooperate and coordinate their activities with those of the Commission;

5. *Stresses* the importance of bringing into effect the conventions emanating from the work of the Commission for the global unification and harmonization of international trade

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[17] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela.

[18] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/57/17).

[19] Ibid., annex I.

law, and to this end urges States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to those conventions;

6. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant bodies of the United Nations system, organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions to the trust fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

7. *Decides*, in order to ensure full participation by all Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to continue, in the competent Main Committee during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, its consideration of granting travel assistance to the least developed countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General;

8. *Reiterates*, in view of the increased work programme of the Commission, its request to the Secretary-General to strengthen the secretariat of the Commission within the bounds of the resources available in the Organization so as to ensure and enhance the effective implementation of the programme of the Commission, if possible during the current biennium and, in any case, during the biennium 2004–2005.

RESOLUTION 57/18

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/562 et Corr.1, para. 15)[20]

57/18. Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the value for international trade of methods for settling commercial disputes in which the parties in dispute request a third person or persons to assist them in their attempt to settle the dispute amicably,

Noting that such dispute settlement methods, referred to by expressions such as conciliation and mediation and expressions of similar import, are increasingly used in international and domestic commercial practice as an alternative to litigation,

Considering that the use of such dispute settlement methods results in significant benefits, such as reducing the instances where a dispute leads to the termination of a commercial relationship, facilitating the administration of international transactions by commercial parties and producing savings in the administration of justice by States,

Convinced that the establishment of model legislation on these methods that is acceptable to States with different legal, social and economic systems would contribute to the development of harmonious international economic relations,

Noting with satisfaction the completion and adoption by the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law of the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation,[21]

Believing that the Model Law will significantly assist States in enhancing their legislation governing the use of modern conciliation or mediation techniques and in formulating such legislation where none currently exists,

Noting that the preparation of the Model Law was the subject of due deliberation and extensive consultations with Governments and interested circles,

Convinced that the Model Law, together with the Conciliation Rules recommended by the General Assembly in its resolution 35/52 of 4 December 1980, contributes significantly to the establishment of a harmonized legal framework for the fair and efficient settlement of disputes arising in international commercial relations,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* to the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law for completing and adopting the Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation, the text of which is contained in the annex to the present resolution, and for preparing the Guide to Enactment and Use of the Model Law;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make all efforts to ensure that the Model Law, together with its Guide to Enactment, becomes generally known and available;

3. *Recommends* that all States give due consideration to the enactment of the Model Law, in view of the desirability of uniformity of the law of dispute settlement procedures and the specific needs of international commercial conciliation practice.

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[20] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[21] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/57/17), annex I.

Annex

Model Law on International Commercial Conciliation of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

Article 1
Scope of application and definitions

1. This Law applies to international[22] commercial[23] conciliation.

2. For the purposes of this Law, "conciliator" means a sole conciliator or two or more conciliators, as the case may be.

3. For the purposes of this Law, "conciliation" means a process, whether referred to by the expression conciliation, mediation or an expression of similar import, whereby parties request a third person or persons ("the conciliator") to assist them in their attempt to reach an amicable settlement of their dispute arising out of or relating to a contractual or other legal relationship. The conciliator does not have the authority to impose upon the parties a solution to the dispute.

4. A conciliation is international if:

(*a*) The parties to an agreement to conciliate have, at the time of the conclusion of that agreement, their places of business in different States; or

(*b*) The State in which the parties have their places of business is different from either:

(i) The State in which a substantial part of the obligations of the commercial relationship is to be performed; or

(ii) The State with which the subject matter of the dispute is most closely connected.

5. For the purposes of this article:

(*a*) If a party has more than one place of business, the place of business is that which has the closest relationship to the agreement to conciliate;

(*b*) If a party does not have a place of business, reference is to be made to the habitual residence of the party.

6. This Law also applies to a commercial conciliation when the parties agree that the conciliation is international or agree to the applicability of this Law.

7. The parties are free to agree to exclude the applicability of this Law.

8. Subject to the provisions of paragraph 9 of this article, this Law applies irrespective of the basis upon which the conciliation is carried out, including agreement between the parties whether reached before or after a dispute has arisen, an obligation established by law, or a direction or suggestion of a court, arbitral tribunal or competent governmental entity.

9. This Law does not apply to:

(*a*) Cases where a judge or an arbitrator, in the course of judicial or arbitral proceedings, attempts to facilitate a settlement; and

(*b*) [...].

Article 2
Interpretation

1. In the interpretation of this Law, regard is to be had to its international origin and to the need to promote uniformity in its application and the observance of good faith.

2. Questions concerning matters governed by this Law which are not expressly settled in it are to be settled in conformity with the general principles on which this Law is based.

Article 3
Variation by agreement

Except for the provisions of article 2 and article 6, paragraph 3, the parties may agree to exclude or vary any of the provisions of this Law.

Article 4
Commencement of conciliation proceedings[24]

1. Conciliation proceedings in respect of a dispute that has arisen commence on the day on which the parties to that dispute agree to engage in conciliation proceedings.

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[22] States wishing to enact this Model Law to apply to domestic as well as international conciliation may wish to consider the following changes to the text:

– Delete the word "international" in paragraph 1 of article 1; and

– Delete paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of article 1.

[23] The term "commercial" should be given a wide interpretation so as to cover matters arising from all relationships of a commercial nature, whether contractual or not. Relationships of a commercial nature include, but are not limited to, the following transactions: any trade transaction for the supply or exchange of goods or services; distribution agreement; commercial representation or agency; factoring; leasing; construction of works; consulting; engineering; licensing; investment; financing; banking; insurance; exploitation agreement or concession; joint venture and other forms of industrial or business cooperation; carriage of goods or passengers by air, sea, rail or road.

[24] The following text is suggested for States that might wish to adopt a provision on the suspension of the limitation period:

Article [...] Suspension of limitation period

1. When the conciliation proceedings commence, the running of the limitation period regarding the claim that is the subject matter of the conciliation is suspended.

2. Where the conciliation proceedings have terminated without a settlement agreement, the limitation period resumes running from the time the conciliation ended without a settlement agreement.

2. If a party that invited another party to conciliate does not receive an acceptance of the invitation within thirty days from the day on which the invitation was sent, or within such other period of time as specified in the invitation, the party may elect to treat this as a rejection of the invitation to conciliate.

Article 5
Number and appointment of conciliators

1. There shall be one conciliator, unless the parties agree that there shall be two or more conciliators.

2. The parties shall endeavour to reach agreement on a conciliator or conciliators, unless a different procedure for their appointment has been agreed upon.

3. Parties may seek the assistance of an institution or person in connection with the appointment of conciliators. In particular:

(*a*) A party may request such an institution or person to recommend suitable persons to act as conciliator; or

(*b*) The parties may agree that the appointment of one or more conciliators be made directly by such an institution or person.

4. In recommending or appointing individuals to act as conciliator, the institution or person shall have regard to such considerations as are likely to secure the appointment of an independent and impartial conciliator and, where appropriate, shall take into account the advisability of appointing a conciliator of a nationality other than the nationalities of the parties.

5. When a person is approached in connection with his or her possible appointment as conciliator, he or she shall disclose any circumstances likely to give rise to justifiable doubts as to his or her impartiality or independence. A conciliator, from the time of his or her appointment and throughout the conciliation proceedings, shall without delay disclose any such circumstances to the parties unless they have already been informed of them by him or her.

Article 6
Conduct of conciliation

1. The parties are free to agree, by reference to a set of rules or otherwise, on the manner in which the conciliation is to be conducted.

2. Failing agreement on the manner in which the conciliation is to be conducted, the conciliator may conduct the conciliation proceedings in such a manner as the conciliator considers appropriate, taking into account the circumstances of the case, any wishes that the parties may express and the need for a speedy settlement of the dispute.

3. In any case, in conducting the proceedings, the conciliator shall seek to maintain fair treatment of the parties and, in so doing, shall take into account the circumstances of the case.

4. The conciliator may, at any stage of the conciliation proceedings, make proposals for a settlement of the dispute.

Article 7
Communication between conciliator and parties

The conciliator may meet or communicate with the parties together or with each of them separately.

Article 8
Disclosure of information

When the conciliator receives information concerning the dispute from a party, the conciliator may disclose the substance of that information to any other party to the conciliation. However, when a party gives any information to the conciliator, subject to a specific condition that it be kept confidential, that information shall not be disclosed to any other party to the conciliation.

Article 9
Confidentiality

Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, all information relating to the conciliation proceedings shall be kept confidential, except where disclosure is required under the law or for the purposes of implementation or enforcement of a settlement agreement.

Article 10
Admissibility of evidence in other proceedings

1. A party to the conciliation proceedings, the conciliator and any third person, including those involved in the administration of the conciliation proceedings, shall not in arbitral, judicial or similar proceedings rely on, introduce as evidence or give testimony or evidence regarding any of the following:

(*a*) An invitation by a party to engage in conciliation proceedings or the fact that a party was willing to participate in conciliation proceedings;

(*b*) Views expressed or suggestions made by a party in the conciliation in respect of a possible settlement of the dispute;

(*c*) Statements or admissions made by a party in the course of the conciliation proceedings;

(*d*) Proposals made by the conciliator;

(*e*) The fact that a party had indicated its willingness to accept a proposal for settlement made by the conciliator;

(*f*) A document prepared solely for purposes of the conciliation proceedings.

2. Paragraph 1 of this article applies irrespective of the form of the information or evidence referred to therein.

3. The disclosure of the information referred to in paragraph 1 of this article shall not be ordered by an arbitral

tribunal, court or other competent governmental authority and, if such information is offered as evidence in contravention of paragraph 1 of this article, that evidence shall be treated as inadmissible. Nevertheless, such information may be disclosed or admitted in evidence to the extent required under the law or for the purposes of implementation or enforcement of a settlement agreement.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of this article apply whether or not the arbitral, judicial or similar proceedings relate to the dispute that is or was the subject matter of the conciliation proceedings.

5. Subject to the limitations of paragraph 1 of this article, evidence that is otherwise admissible in arbitral or judicial or similar proceedings does not become inadmissible as a consequence of having been used in a conciliation.

Article 11
Termination of conciliation proceedings

The conciliation proceedings are terminated:

(*a*) By the conclusion of a settlement agreement by the parties, on the date of the agreement;

(*b*) By a declaration of the conciliator, after consultation with the parties, to the effect that further efforts at conciliation are no longer justified, on the date of the declaration;

(*c*) By a declaration of the parties addressed to the conciliator to the effect that the conciliation proceedings are terminated, on the date of the declaration; or

(*d*) By a declaration of a party to the other party or parties and the conciliator, if appointed, to the effect that the conciliation proceedings are terminated, on the date of the declaration.

Article 12
Conciliator acting as arbitrator

Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the conciliator shall not act as an arbitrator in respect of a dispute that was or is the subject of the conciliation proceedings or in respect of another dispute that has arisen from the same contract or legal relationship or any related contract or legal relationship.

Article 13
Resort to arbitral or judicial proceedings

Where the parties have agreed to conciliate and have expressly undertaken not to initiate during a specified period of time or until a specified event has occurred arbitral or judicial proceedings with respect to an existing or future dispute, such an undertaking shall be given effect by the arbitral tribunal or the court until the terms of the undertaking have been complied with, except to the extent necessary for a party, in its opinion, to preserve its rights. Initiation of such proceedings is not of itself to be regarded as a waiver of the agreement to conciliate or as a termination of the conciliation proceedings.

Article 14
Enforceability of settlement agreement[25]

If the parties conclude an agreement settling a dispute, that settlement agreement is binding and enforceable ... [*the enacting State may insert a description of the method of enforcing settlement agreements or refer to provisions governing such enforcement*].

RESOLUTION 57/19

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/562 and Corr.1, para. 15)[26]

57/19. Enhancing coordination in the area of international trade law and strengthening the secretariat of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Having considered the report of the Commission on its thirty-fifth session,[27]

Noting the demand from Member States, in particular developing countries, for the Commission to provide technical assistance and to prepare legal standards in an increasing number of areas and that, as a result, the number of projects of the Commission has more than doubled as compared with previous years,

Noting also the increased need for coordination among a growing number of international organizations that formulate rules and standards for international trade, and the specific function to be performed by the Commission in that respect, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 2205 (XXI) and reiterated in subsequent resolutions,

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[25] When implementing the procedure for enforcement of settlement agreements, an enacting State may consider the possibility of such a procedure being mandatory.

[26] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[27] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 17* (A/57/17).

Satisfied that the current working methods of the Commission have proved their efficiency,

Concerned, however, about the increased demands on personnel resources of the secretariat of the Commission resulting from the increased work programme and its impending inability to continue servicing the working groups of the Commission and performing other related tasks such as assisting Governments, which could lead to the Commission having to defer or discontinue work on topics on its agenda and to reduce the number of its working groups,

1. *Emphasizes* the need for higher priority to be given to the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in view of the increasing value of the modernization of international trade law for global economic development and, thus, for the maintenance of friendly relations among States;

2. *Takes note* of the recommendation contained in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat on the in-depth evaluation of legal affairs[28] that the Office of Legal Affairs should review the requirements of the secretariat of the Commission entailed by the expansion in the number of working groups from three to six and present to the Commission, at its upcoming review of the practical applications of the new working methods, different options that would ensure the necessary level of secretariat services;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to consider measures to strengthen the secretariat of the Commission within the bounds of the resources available in the Organization, if possible during the current biennium and, in any case, during the biennium 2004–2005.

RESOLUTION 57/20

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/562 and Corr.1, para. 15)[29]

57/20. Enlargement of the membership of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 2205 (XXI) of 17 December 1966, by which it established the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law with a mandate to further the progressive harmonization and unification of the law of international trade and in that respect to bear in mind the interests of all peoples, in particular those of developing countries, in the extensive development of international trade,

Recalling also its resolution 3108 (XXVIII) of 12 December 1973, by which it increased the membership of the Commission from twenty-nine to thirty-six States,

Being satisfied with the practice of the Commission of inviting States not members of the Commission and relevant intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations to participate as observers in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups and to take part in the formulation of texts by the Commission, as well as with the practice of reaching decisions by consensus without a formal vote,

Observing that the considerable number of States that have participated as observers and made valuable contributions to the work of the Commission indicates that there exists an interest in active participation in the Commission beyond the current thirty-six member States,

Convinced that wider participation of States in the work of the Commission would further the progress of its work and that an increase in the membership of the Commission would stimulate interest in its work,

Having considered comments by States, as well as the report of the Secretary-General on the implications of increasing the membership of the Commission,[30] submitted pursuant to paragraph 13 of General Assembly resolution 55/151 of 12 December 2000,

1. *Takes note* of the fact that the impact of an increase in the membership of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the secretariat services required to properly facilitate the work of the Commission would not be material enough to quantify and that the increase would therefore have no financial implications;

2. *Decides* to increase the membership of the Commission from thirty-six to sixty States, bearing in mind that the Commission is a technical body whose composition reflects, inter alia, the specific requirements of the subject matter; the regional representation resulting from this increase in membership, which takes those requirements into account, shall not be a precedent for the enlargement of other bodies in the United Nations system;

3. *Decides also* that the twenty-four additional members of the Commission shall be elected by the General Assembly for a term of six years, except as provided in subparagraph (*b*) below, in accordance with the following rules:

(*a*) In electing the additional members, the General Assembly shall observe the following distribution of seats:

(i) Five from African States;

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[28] E/AC.51/2002/5, recommendation 15.

[29] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee.

[30] A/56/315.

(ii) Seven from Asian States;

(iii) Three from Eastern European States;

(iv) Four from Latin American and Caribbean States;

(v) Five from Western European and other States;

(*b*) Of the twenty-four additional members elected at the first election, to be held during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, the term of thirteen members shall expire on the last day prior to the beginning of the fortieth session of the Commission, in 2007; the President of the General Assembly shall, by drawing lots, select these members as follows:

(i) Two from those elected from African States, two from those elected from Eastern European States and two from those elected from Western European and other States;

(ii) Four from those elected from Asian States;

(iii) Three from those elected from Latin American and Caribbean States;

(*c*) The twenty-four additional members elected at the first election shall take office from the first day of the thirty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2004;

(*d*) The provisions of section II, paragraphs 4 and 5, of General Assembly resolution 2205 (XXI) shall also apply to the additional members;

4. *Appeals* to Governments, the relevant United Nations organs, organizations, institutions and individuals, in order to ensure full participation by the Member States in the sessions of the Commission and its working groups, to consider making voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund established to provide travel assistance to developing countries that are members of the Commission, at their request and in consultation with the Secretary-General.

RESOLUTION 57/21

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/563, para. 9)[31]

57/21. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fourth session

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fourth session,[32]

Emphasizing the importance of furthering the codification and progressive development of international law as a means of implementing the purposes and principles set forth in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,[33]

Recognizing the desirability of referring legal and drafting questions to the Sixth Committee, including topics that might be submitted to the International Law Commission for closer examination, and of enabling the Sixth Committee and the Commission to enhance further their contribution to the progressive development of international law and its codification,

Wishing to enhance further the interaction between the Sixth Committee as a body of governmental representatives and the International Law Commission as a body of independent legal experts, with a view to improving the dialogue between the two organs,

Recalling the need to keep under review those topics of international law which, given their new or renewed interest for the international community, may be suitable for the progressive development and codification of international law and therefore may be included in the future programme of work of the International Law Commission,

Welcoming the holding of the International Law Seminar, and noting with appreciation the voluntary contributions made to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar,

Stressing the usefulness of structuring the debate on the report of the International Law Commission in the Sixth Committee in such a manner that conditions are provided for concentrated attention to each of the main topics dealt with in the report,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fourth session;[32]

2. *Takes note* of the decision of the International Law Commission to proceed with its work on the topic "International liability for injurious consequences arising out of acts not prohibited by international law", as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/82 of 12 December 2001, and also takes note of its decision to include in its programme of work the topics "Responsibility of international organizations", "Shared natural resources" and "Fragmentation of international

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[31] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Peru, on behalf of the Bureau.

[32] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/57/10 and Corr.1).

[33] Resolution 2625 (XXV), annex.

law: difficulties arising from the diversification and expansion of international law";[34]

3. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the importance for the International Law Commission of having their views on the various aspects involved in the topics on the agenda of the Commission, in particular on all the specific issues identified in chapter III of its report;

4. *Reiterates its invitation* to Governments, within the context of paragraph 3 above, to provide information to the International Law Commission regarding State practice on the topic "Unilateral acts of States";

5. *Also reiterates its invitation* to Governments to submit the most relevant national legislation, decisions of domestic courts and State practice relevant to diplomatic protection in order to assist the International Law Commission in its work on the topic "Diplomatic protection";

6. *Recommends* that the International Law Commission, taking into account the comments and observations of Governments, whether in writing or expressed orally in debates in the General Assembly, continue its work on the topics in its current programme;

7. *Invites* the International Law Commission to continue taking measures to enhance its efficiency and productivity;

8. *Takes note* of paragraph 524 of the report of the International Law Commission with regard to cost-saving measures, and encourages the Commission to continue taking such measures at its future sessions;

9. *Takes note also* of paragraph 532 of the report, and decides that the next session of the International Law Commission shall be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 5 May to 6 June and from 7 July to 8 August 2003;

10. *Stresses* the desirability of further enhancing the dialogue between the International Law Commission and the Sixth Committee, and in this context encourages, inter alia, the holding of informal discussions between the members of the Sixth Committee and those members of the Commission attending the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly;

11. *Requests* the International Law Commission to continue to pay special attention to indicating in its annual report, for each topic, any specific issues on which expressions of views by Governments, either in the Sixth Committee or in written form, would be of particular interest in providing effective guidance for the Commission in its further work;

12. *Also requests* the International Law Commission to continue the implementation of article 16, paragraph (*e*), and article 26, paragraphs 1 and 2, of its statute in order to further strengthen cooperation between the Commission and other bodies concerned with international law, having in mind the usefulness of such cooperation;

13. *Notes* that consulting with national organizations and individual experts concerned with international law may assist Governments in considering whether to make comments and observations on drafts submitted by the International Law Commission and in formulating their comments and observations;

14. *Reaffirms* its previous decisions concerning the critical role of the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat in providing assistance to the International Law Commission;

15. *Reaffirms also* its previous decisions concerning the summary records and other documentation of the International Law Commission;[35]

16. *Expresses the hope* that the International Law Seminar will continue to be held in connection with the sessions of the International Law Commission and that an increasing number of participants, in particular from developing countries, will be given the opportunity to attend the Seminar, and appeals to States to continue to make urgently needed voluntary contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Law Seminar;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the International Law Seminar with adequate services, including interpretation, as required, and encourages him to continue considering ways to improve the structure and content of the Seminar;

18. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to forward to the International Law Commission, for its attention, the records of the debate on the report of the Commission at the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, together with such written statements as delegations may circulate in conjunction with their oral statements, and to prepare and distribute a topical summary of the debate, following established practice;

19. *Requests* the Secretariat to circulate to States, as soon as possible after the conclusion of the session of the International Law Commission, chapter II of its report containing a summary of the work of that session and the draft articles adopted on either first or second reading by the Commission;

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[34] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 10* and corrigendum (A/57/10 and Corr.1), paras. 517 and 518.

[35] See resolution 32/151, para. 10, resolution 37/111, para. 5, and all subsequent resolutions on the annual reports of the International Law Commission to the Assembly.

20. *Recommends* that the debate on the report of the International Law Commission at the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly commence on 27 October 2003.

RESOLUTION 57/22

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/564 and Corr.1, para. 8)[36]

57/22. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country,[37]

Recalling Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations, the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations,[38] the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations[39] and the responsibilities of the host country,

Recalling also that, in accordance with paragraph 7 of General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI) of 15 December 1971, the Committee should consider, and advise the host country on, issues arising in connection with the implementation of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,

Recalling further its resolution 43/172 of 9 December 1988, in which it stressed the importance of a positive perception of the work of the United Nations, and urged that efforts be continued to build up public awareness by explaining, through all available means, the importance of the role played by the United Nations and the missions accredited to it in the strengthening of international peace and security,

Recognizing that effective measures should continue to be taken by the competent authorities of the host country, in particular to prevent any acts violating the security of missions and the safety of their personnel,

1. *Endorses* the recommendations and conclusions of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country contained in paragraph 35 of its report;[37]

2. *Considers* that the maintenance of appropriate conditions for the normal work of the delegations and the missions accredited to the United Nations and the observance of their privileges and immunities, which is an issue of great importance, are in the interest of the United Nations and all Member States, and requests the host country to continue to solve, through negotiations, problems that might arise and to take all measures necessary to prevent any interference with the functioning of missions;

3. *Takes note* of the opinion of the Legal Counsel of the United Nations of 24 September 2002[40] concerning the Parking Programme for Diplomatic Vehicles,[41] the positions expressed on this issue at the 213th meeting of the Committee, on 15 October 2002,[42] including requests from most speakers to defer implementation of the Parking Programme, and the commitment of the host country to maintaining appropriate conditions for the functioning of the delegations and missions accredited to the United Nations in a manner that is fair, non-discriminatory, efficient and consistent with international law;

4. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the host country, and hopes that the issues raised at the meetings of the Committee will continue to be resolved in a spirit of cooperation and in accordance with international law;

5. *Notes* that during the reporting period the travel controls previously imposed by the host country on staff of certain missions and staff members of the Secretariat of certain nationalities remained in effect, and requests the host country to consider removing such travel controls, and in this regard notes the positions of affected States, of the Secretary-General and of the host country;

6. *Notes also* that the Committee anticipates that the host country will continue to ensure the issuance, in a timely manner, of entry visas to representatives of Member States, pursuant to article IV, section 11, of the Agreement between the United Nations and the United States of America regarding the Headquarters of the United Nations,[39] inter alia, for the purpose of their attending official United Nations meetings;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to remain actively engaged in all aspects of the relations of the United Nations with the host country;

8. *Requests* the Committee to continue its work in conformity with General Assembly resolution 2819 (XXVI);

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country".

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[36] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus and Spain.

[37] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/57/26).

[38] Resolution 22 A (I).

[39] See resolution 169 (II).

[40] A/AC.154/358, annex.

[41] A/AC.154/355, annex.

[42] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 26* (A/57/26), paras. 26–30 and 32.

RESOLUTION 57/23

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/565, para. 10)[43]

57/23. Establishment of the International Criminal Court

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/33 of 25 November 1992, 48/31 of 9 December 1993, 49/53 of 9 December 1994, 50/46 of 11 December 1995, 51/207 of 17 December 1996, 52/160 of 15 December 1997, 53/105 of 8 December 1998, 54/105 of 9 December 1999, 55/155 of 12 December 2000 and 56/85 of 12 December 2001,

Noting that the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court was adopted on 17 July 1998[44] and entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Noting also that the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court, established in accordance with resolution F of the Final Act of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court,[45] held its ninth and tenth sessions from 8 to 19 April and from 1 to 12 July 2002, respectively, and thus successfully completed its mandate in accordance with that resolution,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted at the Millennium Assembly,[46] in which heads of State and Government stressed the importance of the International Criminal Court,

Reiterating the historic significance of the adoption of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,

1. *Calls upon* all States that are not yet parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court[44] to consider ratifying it or acceding to it without delay, and encourages efforts aimed at promoting awareness of the results of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, held in Rome from 15 June to 17 July 1998, the provisions of the Statute and the process leading to the establishment of the International Criminal Court;

2. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court[47] without delay;

3. *Welcomes* the important work accomplished by the Preparatory Commission for the International Criminal Court in the completion of its mandate in accordance with resolution F of the Rome Conference;

4. *Welcomes also* the holding of the first session of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court from 3 to 10 September 2002 and the adoption of a number of important instruments by the Assembly;[48]

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[49] in particular paragraphs 12 to 15 indicating the decision of the Assembly of States Parties to resume its first session from 3 to 7 February and from 21 to 23 April 2003 and to hold the meeting of the Committee on Budget and Finance from 4 to 8 August 2003 and the second session of the Assembly of States Parties from 8 to 12 September 2003, all of which are to be held at United Nations Headquarters;

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[43] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Netherlands.

[44] *Official Records of the United Nations Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court, Rome, 15 June–17 July 1998*, vol. I: *Final documents* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.I.5), sect. A.

[45] Ibid., sect. B.

[46] See resolution 55/2.

[47] *Official Records of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, First session, New York, 3–10 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.V.2 and corrigendum), part II.E.

[48] Rules of Procedure and Evidence; Elements of Crimes; rules of procedure of the Assembly of States Parties; financial regulations and rules; Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court; basic principles governing a headquarters agreement to be negotiated between the Court and the host country; a draft relationship agreement between the Court and the United Nations; budget for the first financial period of the Court; resolution on continuity of work in respect of the crime of aggression; resolution on the procedure for the nomination and election of judges, the Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutors of the International Criminal Court; resolution on the procedure for election of the judges for the International Criminal Court; resolution on the establishment of the Committee on Budget and Finance; resolution on the procedure for the nomination and election of members of the Committee on Budget and Finance; resolution on the establishment of a fund for the benefit of victims of crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court, and of the families of such victims; resolution on the procedure for the nomination and election of members of the Board of Directors of the Trust Fund for the benefit of victims; resolution on provisional arrangements for the secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties; resolution on a permanent secretariat of the Assembly of States Parties; resolution on the selection of the staff of the International Criminal Court; resolution on relevant criteria for voluntary contributions to the International Criminal Court; resolution on budget appropriations for the first financial period and financing of appropriations for the first financial period; resolution on the Working Capital Fund for the first financial period; resolution on scales of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the International Criminal Court; resolution on crediting contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund to Support the Establishment of the International Criminal Court; decision on provision of funds for the Court; decision on interim arrangements for the exercise of authority pending the assumption of office by the Registrar; decision on the participation of the International Criminal Court in the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund; and decision on seating arrangements for States Parties.

[49] A/57/403.

6. *Recognizes* the need to make available, on a provisional basis, adequate resources and secretariat services for the Assembly of States Parties to enable it to discharge its functions efficiently and expeditiously;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to undertake the preparations necessary for holding the meetings referred to in paragraph 5 above in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make available to those meetings secretariat services for the necessary preparatory work as well as for any post-session follow-up actions;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to take steps to expand the mandate of the trust fund established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 51/207 for voluntary contributions towards meeting the costs of participation of the least developed countries in the work of the Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

11. *Decides* that the costs of services rendered to the Assembly of States Parties that may accrue to the United Nations as a result of the implementation of the present resolution shall be paid in advance to the Organization;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to States that made voluntary contributions to the first session of the Assembly of States Parties in accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 56/85;

13. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session an item entitled "International Criminal Court".

RESOLUTION 57/24

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/566, para. 12)[50]

57/24. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 3499 (XXX) of 15 December 1975, by which it established the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, and its relevant resolutions adopted at subsequent sessions,

Recalling also its resolution 47/233 of 17 August 1993 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly,

Recalling further its resolution 47/62 of 11 December 1992 on the question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council,

Taking note of the report of the Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Matters Related to the Security Council,[51]

Recalling the elements relevant to the work of the Special Committee contained in its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993,

Recalling also its resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997 on the strengthening of the United Nations system and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", by which it adopted the texts on coordination and the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations, which are annexed to that resolution,

Recalling further that the International Court of Justice is the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, and reaffirming its authority and independence,

Considering the desirability of finding practical ways and means to strengthen the Court, taking into consideration, in particular, the needs resulting from its increased workload,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs* and the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*,[52]

Recalling its resolution 56/86 of 12 December 2001,

Having considered the report of the Special Committee on the work of its session held in 2002,[53]

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization;[53]

2. *Decides* that the Special Committee shall hold its next session from 7 to 17 April 2003;

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[50] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored by the representative of Egypt.

[51] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 47* (A/56/47).

[52] A/57/370.

[53] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/57/33).

3. *Requests* the Special Committee, at its session in 2003, in accordance with paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 50/52 of 11 December 1995:

(*a*) To continue its consideration of all proposals concerning the question of the maintenance of international peace and security in all its aspects in order to strengthen the role of the United Nations and, in this context, to consider other proposals relating to the maintenance of international peace and security already submitted or which may be submitted to the Special Committee at its session in 2003;

(*b*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter by commencing a substantive debate on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General[54] and the proposals submitted on the question;

(*c*) To keep on its agenda the question of the peaceful settlement of disputes between States;

(*d*) To continue to consider proposals concerning the Trusteeship Council in the light of the report of the Secretary-General submitted in accordance with General Assembly resolution 50/55 of 11 December 1995,[55] the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"[56] and the views expressed by States on this subject at previous sessions of the Assembly;

(*e*) To continue to consider, on a priority basis, ways and means of improving its working methods and enhancing its efficiency with a view to identifying widely acceptable measures for future implementation;

4. *Takes note* of paragraph 57 of the report of the Secretary-General,[52] commends the Secretary-General for his continued efforts to reduce the backlog in the publication of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*, and endorses the efforts of the Secretary-General to eliminate the backlog in the publication of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*;

5. *Invites* the Special Committee at its session in 2003 to continue to identify new subjects for consideration in its future work with a view to contributing to the revitalization of the work of the United Nations;

6. *Notes* the readiness of the Special Committee, in the context of its consideration of the subject of assistance to working groups on the revitalization of the work of the United Nations and coordination between the Special Committee and other working groups dealing with the reform of the Organization, to provide, within its mandate, such assistance as may be sought at the request of other subsidiary bodies of the General Assembly in relation to any issues before them;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

8. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/25

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/566, para. 12)[57]

57/25. Implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

The General Assembly,

Concerned about the special economic problems confronting certain States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council against other States, and taking into account the obligation of Members of the United Nations under Article 49 of the Charter of the United Nations to join in affording mutual assistance in carrying out the measures decided upon by the Security Council,

Recalling the right of third States confronted with special economic problems of that nature to consult the Security Council with regard to a solution of those problems, in accordance with Article 50 of the Charter,

Recognizing the desirability of the consideration of further appropriate procedures for consultations to deal in a more effective manner with the problems referred to in Article 50 of the Charter,

Recalling:

(*a*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "An Agenda for Peace",[58] in particular paragraph 41 thereof,

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[54] A/48/573-S/26705, A/49/356, A/50/60-S/1995/1, A/50/361, A/50/423, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303 and A/57/165 and Add.1.

[55] A/50/1011.

[56] A/51/950 and Add.1–7.

[57] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Malaysia, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda and Ukraine.

[58] A/47/277-S/24111.

(*b*) Its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, entitled "An Agenda for Peace: preventive diplomacy and related matters", its resolution 47/120 B of 20 September 1993, entitled "An Agenda for Peace", in particular section IV thereof, entitled "Special economic problems arising from the implementation of preventive or enforcement measures", and its resolution 51/242 of 15 September 1997, entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace", in particular annex II thereto, entitled "Question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations",

(*c*) The position paper of the Secretary-General entitled "Supplement to an Agenda for Peace",[59]

(*d*) The statement by the President of the Security Council of 22 February 1995,[60]

(*e*) The report of the Secretary-General[61] prepared pursuant to the statement by the President of the Security Council[62] regarding the question of special economic problems of States as a result of sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter,

(*f*) The annual overview reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for the period from 1992 to 2000[63] and the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2001,[64] in particular the sections on assistance to countries invoking Article 50 of the Charter,

(*g*) The reports of the Secretary-General on economic assistance to States affected by the implementation of the Security Council resolutions imposing sanctions against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia[65] and General Assembly resolutions 48/210 of 21 December 1993, 49/21 A of 2 December 1994, 50/58 E of 12 December 1995, 51/30 A of 5 December 1996, 52/169 H of 16 December 1997, 54/96 G of 15 December 1999, 55/170 of 14 December 2000 and 56/110 of 14 December 2001,

(*h*) The reports of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization on the work of its sessions held in the years 1994 to 2002,[66]

(*i*) The reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter,[67]

(*j*) The report of the Secretary-General to the Millennium Assembly of the United Nations,[68] in particular section IV.E thereof, entitled "Targeting sanctions",

(*k*) The United Nations Millennium Declaration,[69] in particular paragraph 9 thereof,

(*l*) The report of the Secretary-General entitled "Road map towards implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration",[70] in particular paragraphs 56 to 61 thereof,

(*m*) The report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the in-depth evaluation of United Nations programmes relating to global development trends, issues and policies and global approaches to social and microeconomic issues and policies, and the corresponding subprogrammes in the regional commissions,[71] in particular recommendation 3 contained therein, as approved by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its fortieth session,[72]

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization,[73] in particular paragraphs 69 to 71 thereof,

Recalling that the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions has been addressed recently in several forums, including the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary organs,

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[59] A/50/60-S/1995/1.

[60] S/PRST/1995/9; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1995*.

[61] A/48/573-S/26705.

[62] S/25036; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1992*.

[63] E/1993/81, E/1994/19, E/1995/21, E/1996/18 and Add.1, E/1997/54 and Corr.1, E/1998/21, E/1999/48, E/2000/53 and E/2001/55.

[64] E/2002/55.

[65] A/49/356, A/50/423, A/51/356, A/52/535, A/54/534, A/55/620 and Corr.1 and A/56/632.

[66] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/49/33); ibid., *Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/50/33); ibid., *Fifty-first Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/51/33); ibid., *Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/52/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-third Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/53/33); ibid., *Fifty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 33* and corrigendum (A/54/33 and Corr.1); ibid., *Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/55/33); ibid., *Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/56/33); and ibid., *Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 33* (A/57/33).

[67] A/50/361, A/51/317, A/52/308, A/53/312, A/54/383 and Add.1, A/55/295 and Add.1, A/56/303 and A/57/165 and Add.1.

[68] A/54/2000.

[69] See resolution 55/2.

[70] A/56/326.

[71] E/AC.51/2000/2.

[72] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16* and corrigendum (A/55/16 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II.C.2, para. 243.

[73] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/57/1).

Recalling also the measures taken by the Security Council, in accordance with the statement by the President of the Security Council of 16 December 1994,[74] that, as part of the effort of the Council to improve the flow of information and the exchange of ideas between members of the Council and other States Members of the United Nations, there should be increased recourse to open meetings, in particular at an early stage in its consideration of a subject,

Recalling further the measures taken by the Security Council in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 January 1999[75] aimed at improving the work of the sanctions committees, including increasing the effectiveness and transparency of those committees,

Stressing that, in the formulation of sanctions regimes, due account should be taken of the potential effects of sanctions on third States,

Stressing also, in this context, the powers of the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter and the primary responsibility of the Council under Article 24 of the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security in order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations,

Recalling that, under Article 31 of the Charter, any Member of the United Nations that is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected,

Recognizing that the imposition of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter has been causing special economic problems in third States and that it is necessary to intensify efforts to address those problems effectively,

Taking into consideration the views of third States which could be affected by the imposition of sanctions,

Recognizing that assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions would further contribute to an effective and comprehensive approach by the international community to sanctions imposed by the Security Council,

Recognizing also that the international community at large and, in particular, international institutions involved in providing economic and financial assistance should continue to take into account and address in a more effective manner the special economic problems of affected third States arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures taken by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, in view of their magnitude and of the adverse impact on the economies of those States,

Recalling the provisions of its resolutions 50/51 of 11 December 1995, 51/208 of 17 December 1996, 52/162 of 15 December 1997, 53/107 of 8 December 1998, 54/107 of 9 December 1999, 55/157 of 12 December 2000 and 56/87 of 12 December 2001,

1. *Renews its invitation* to the Security Council to consider the establishment of further mechanisms or procedures, as appropriate, for consultations as early as possible under Article 50 of the Charter of the United Nations with third States which are or may be confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter, with regard to a solution of those problems, including appropriate ways and means for increasing the effectiveness of its methods and procedures applied in the consideration of requests by the affected States for assistance;

2. *Welcomes* the measures taken by the Security Council since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 50/51, most recently the note by the President of the Security Council of 15 January 2002,[76] whereby the members of the Council agreed to extend the mandate of the informal working group of the Council established in 2000 to develop general recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of United Nations sanctions, looks forward to the adoption of the proposed outcome document of the working group, in particular the provisions thereof regarding the issues of the unintended impact of sanctions and assistance to States in implementing sanctions, and strongly recommends that the Council continue its efforts to enhance further the effectiveness and transparency of the sanctions committees, to streamline their working procedures and to facilitate access to them by representatives of States that find themselves confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of sanctions;

3. *Invites* the Security Council, its sanctions committees and the Secretariat to continue to ensure, as appropriate, that:

(*a*) Both pre-assessment reports and ongoing assessment reports include as part of their analysis the likely and actual unintended impact of the sanctions on third States and recommend ways in which the negative impact of sanctions can be mitigated;

(*b*) Sanctions committees provide opportunities for third States affected by sanctions to brief them on the unintended impact of sanctions they are experiencing and on assistance needed by them to mitigate the negative impact of sanctions;

(*c*) The Secretariat continues to provide, upon request, advice and information to third States to help them to pursue means to mitigate the unintended impact of sanctions, for example, on invoking Article 50 of the Charter for consultation with the Security Council;

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[74] See S/PRST/1994/81; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1994*.

[75] S/1999/92; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1999*.

[76] S/2002/70; see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council, 1 January 2001–31 July 2002*.

(*d*) Where economic sanctions have had severe effects on third States, the Security Council is able to request the Secretary-General to consider appointing a special representative or dispatching, as necessary, fact-finding missions on the ground to undertake necessary assessments and to identify, as appropriate, possible ways of assistance;

(*e*) The Security Council is able, in the context of situations referred to in subparagraph (*d*) above, to consider establishing working groups to consider such situations;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to pursue the implementation of resolutions 50/51, 51/208, 52/162, 53/107, 54/107, 55/157 and 56/87 and to ensure that the competent units within the Secretariat develop the adequate capacity and appropriate modalities, technical procedures and guidelines to continue, on a regular basis, to collate and coordinate information about international assistance available to third States affected by the implementation of sanctions, to continue developing a possible methodology for assessing the adverse consequences actually incurred by third States and to explore innovative and practical measures of assistance to the affected third States;

5. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting on developing a methodology for assessing the consequences incurred by third States as a result of preventive or enforcement measures and on exploring innovative and practical measures of international assistance to the affected third States,[77] and renews its invitation to States and relevant international organizations within and outside the United Nations system which have not yet done so to provide their views regarding the report of the ad hoc expert group meeting;

6. *Takes note* of the most recent report of the Secretary-General,[77] in particular, of his views on the deliberations and main findings, including the recommendations, of the ad hoc expert group on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, as well as the views of States, the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other international organizations, as contained in the previous reports of the Secretary-General;[78]

7. *Reaffirms* the important role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Committee for Programme and Coordination in mobilizing and monitoring, as appropriate, the economic assistance efforts of the international community and the United Nations system on behalf of States confronted with special economic problems arising from the carrying out of preventive or enforcement measures imposed by the Security Council and, as appropriate, in identifying solutions to the special economic problems of those States;

8. *Takes note* of the decision of the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2000/32 of 28 July 2000, to continue its consideration of the question of assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions, invites the Council, at its organizational session for 2003, to make appropriate arrangements for this purpose within its programme of work for 2003, and decides to transmit the most recent report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions,[77] together with the relevant background materials, to the Council at its substantive session of 2003;

9. *Invites* the organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions, other international organizations, regional organizations and Member States to address more specifically and directly, where appropriate, the special economic problems of third States affected by sanctions imposed under Chapter VII of the Charter and, for this purpose, to consider improving procedures for consultations to maintain a constructive dialogue with such States, including through regular and frequent meetings as well as, where appropriate, special meetings between the affected third States and the donor community, with the participation of United Nations agencies and other international organizations;

10. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization, at its session in 2003, to continue to consider on a priority basis the question of the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter by commencing a substantive debate on all of the related reports of the Secretary-General, in particular the 1998 report containing a summary of the deliberations and main findings of the ad hoc expert group meeting convened pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 52/162,[79] together with the most recent report of the Secretary-General on this question, taking into consideration the forthcoming report of the informal working group of the Security Council on general issues relating to sanctions, the proposals submitted on the question, the debate on the question in the Sixth Committee during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly and the text on the question of sanctions imposed by the United Nations contained in annex II to resolution 51/242, as well as the implementation of the provisions of resolutions 50/51, 51/208,

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[77] A/57/165 and Add.1.

[78] A/54/383 and Add.1 and A/55/295 and Add.1.

[79] A/53/312.

52/162, 53/107, 54/107, 55/157, 56/87 and the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to consider, within the Sixth Committee or a working group of the Committee, at the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, further progress in the elaboration of effective measures aimed at the implementation of the provisions of the Charter related to assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions under Chapter VII of the Charter;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, under the agenda item entitled "Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization".

RESOLUTION 57/26

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/566, para. 12)[80]

57/26. Prevention and peaceful settlement of disputes

The General Assembly,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling also Chapter VI of the Charter, in particular Article 33, and underlining the obligation of Member States to seek a solution to their disputes by peaceful means of their own choice,

Recalling further the principles in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[81] and the declaration of the Security Council on Ensuring an Effective Role of the Security Council in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security, particularly in Africa,[82] adopted during the Millennium Summit,

Recalling the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes,[83] the Declaration on the Prevention and Removal of Disputes and Situations Which May Threaten International Peace and Security and on the Role of the United Nations in this Field,[84] the Declaration on Fact-finding by the United Nations in the Field of the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,[85] the Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security,[86] and the United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States,[87] elaborated by the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization and adopted unanimously by the General Assembly,

Noting with appreciation the work done by the Special Committee to encourage States to focus on the need to prevent and to settle peacefully their disputes, which are likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security,

Emphasizing the importance of early warning to prevent disputes, and emphasizing also the need to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes,

Recalling the various procedures and methods available to States for the prevention and the peaceful settlement of their disputes, including those provided for in Article 33 of the Charter, as well as monitoring, fact-finding missions, goodwill missions, special envoys, observers and good offices,

Recalling in particular its relevant declarations and resolutions concerning dispute prevention, in which, inter alia, it called upon the Secretary-General to make full use of the information-gathering capabilities of the Secretariat and emphasized the need to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations in the field of preventive diplomacy,

Recalling its relevant resolutions and decisions concerning dispute settlement, including resolution 2329 (XXII) of 18 December 1967, in which it requested the Secretary-General to prepare a register of experts whose services States parties to a dispute might use for fact-finding in relation to the dispute, decision 44/415 of 4 December 1989, the annex to which contains a draft document on resort to a commission of good offices, mediation or conciliation within the United Nations, and resolution 50/50 of 11 December 1995, the annex to which contains the United Nations Model Rules for the Conciliation of Disputes between States,

Noting with satisfaction that, pursuant to the recommendation contained in its resolution 47/120 A of 18 December 1992, the Secretary-General established a list of eminent and qualified experts for his use in fact-finding and other missions, and that this list has recently been updated,

Recalling that certain multilateral treaties provide for the creation of lists of conciliators and arbitrators for use by States in the settlement of their disputes,

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[80] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the Chairman of the Committee, on behalf of the Bureau.

[81] See resolution 55/2.

[82] Security Council resolution 1318 (2000), annex.

[83] Resolution 37/10, annex.

[84] Resolution 43/51, annex.

[85] Resolution 46/59, annex.

[86] Resolution 49/57, annex.

[87] Resolution 50/50, annex.

Reaffirming the important role played by judicial mechanisms, in particular the International Court of Justice and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea, in the settlement of disputes between States,

1. *Urges* States to make the most effective use of existing procedures and methods for the prevention and the peaceful settlement of their disputes, in accordance with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Reaffirms* the duty of all States, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, to use peaceful means to settle any dispute to which they are parties and the continuance of which is likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security, and encourages States to settle their disputes as early as possible;

3. *Draws the attention* of States to the important roles played by the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Secretary-General in providing early warning and in working for the prevention of disputes and situations which might threaten international peace and security;

4. *Takes note* of the paper prepared by the Secretariat entitled "Mechanisms established by the General Assembly in the context of dispute prevention and settlement";[88]

5. *Urges* the continued enhancement of the concrete steps taken by the Secretariat to build and improve the capacity of the United Nations to respond effectively and efficiently in matters relating to dispute prevention, including through the strengthening of cooperative mechanisms for information-sharing, planning and the development of preventive measures; the development of a comprehensive plan for a revived early-warning and prevention system for the United Nations; training intended to support such enhanced capabilities in these areas; and cooperation with regional organizations;

6. *Encourages* States to nominate suitably qualified persons who are willing to provide fact-finding services, for inclusion in the register set up by the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of its resolution 2329 (XXII);

7. *Encourages* eligible States also to nominate suitably qualified persons to have their names included in the lists of conciliators and arbitrators provided for under certain treaties, including the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties[89] and the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[90]

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take such steps as he deems necessary from time to time to encourage States to designate suitably qualified persons for inclusion in the various lists referred to above which he has the responsibility to maintain;

9. *Reminds* States that have not yet done so that they may at any time make a declaration under Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the International Court of Justice with regard to its compulsory jurisdiction in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, and encourages them to consider doing so.

RESOLUTION 57/27

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/567, para. 10)[91]

57/27. Measures to eliminate international terrorism

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Declaration on the Occasion of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations,[92]

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[93]

Recalling further all General Assembly and Security Council resolutions on measures to eliminate international terrorism,

Convinced of the importance of the consideration of measures to eliminate international terrorism by the General Assembly as the universal organ having competence to do so,

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts, which have been carried out worldwide,

Reaffirming its strong condemnation of the heinous acts of terrorism that have caused enormous loss of human life, destruction and damage, including those which prompted the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/1 of 12 September 2001, as well as Security Council resolutions 1368 (2001) of 12 September 2001, 1373 (2001) of 28 September 2001 and 1377 (2001) of 12 November 2001, and those that have occurred since the adoption of General Assembly resolution 56/88 of 12 December 2001, most recently those in Bali and Moscow, which prompted the adoption of Security Council resolutions 1438 (2002) of 14 October 2002 and 1440 (2002) of 24 October 2002, respectively,

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[88] A/AC.182/2000/INF/2.

[89] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1155, No. 18232.

[90] See *The Law of the Sea: Official Texts of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 and of the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 with Index and Excerpts from the Final Act of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.V.10).

[91] The draft resolution recommended in the report was introduced by the representative of Canada, on behalf of the Bureau.

[92] See resolution 50/6.

[93] See resolution 55/2.

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation among States and among international organizations and agencies, regional organizations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and the relevant international conventions,

Noting the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism in monitoring the implementation of that resolution, including the taking of the necessary financial, legal and technical measures by States and the ratification or acceptance of the relevant international conventions and protocols,

Mindful of the need to enhance the role of the United Nations and the relevant specialized agencies in combating international terrorism, and of the proposals of the Secretary-General to enhance the role of the Organization in this respect,

Mindful also of the essential need to strengthen international, regional and subregional cooperation aimed at enhancing the national capacity of States to prevent and suppress effectively international terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Recalling the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 49/60 of 9 December 1994, wherein the Assembly encouraged States to review urgently the scope of the existing international legal provisions on the prevention, repression and elimination of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the aim of ensuring that there was a comprehensive legal framework covering all aspects of the matter,

Taking note of the final document of the Thirteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Cartagena, Colombia, on 8 and 9 April 2000,[94] which reiterated the collective position of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries on terrorism and reaffirmed the previous initiative of the Twelfth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held at Durban, South Africa, from 29 August to 3 September 1998,[95] calling for an international summit conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and other relevant initiatives,

Bearing in mind the recent developments and initiatives at the international, regional and subregional levels to prevent and suppress international terrorism,

Recalling its decision in resolutions 54/110 of 9 December 1999, 55/158 of 12 December 2000 and 56/88 that the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 should address, and keep on its agenda, the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations,

Noting regional efforts to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, including through the elaboration of and adherence to regional conventions,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,[96] the report of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996[97] and the report of the Working Group of the Sixth Committee established pursuant to resolution 56/88,[98]

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable, wherever and by whomsoever committed;

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them;

3. *Reiterates its call* upon all States to adopt further measures in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism and, to that end, to consider in particular the implementation of the measures set out in paragraphs 3 (*a*) to (*f*) of resolution 51/210;

4. *Also reiterates its call* upon all States, with the aim of enhancing the efficient implementation of relevant legal instruments, to intensify, as and where appropriate, the exchange of information on facts related to terrorism and, in so doing, to avoid the dissemination of inaccurate or unverified information;

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[94] A/54/917-S/2000/580, annex.

[95] See A/53/667-S/1998/1071, annex I, paras. 149–162.

[96] A/57/183 and Corr.1 and Add.1.

[97] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 37* and corrigendum (A/57/37 and Corr.1).

[98] A/C.6/57/L.9.

5. *Reiterates its call* upon States to refrain from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

6. *Reaffirms* that international cooperation as well as actions by States to combat terrorism should be conducted in conformity with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions;

7. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider, as a matter of priority, and in accordance with Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols as referred to in paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 51/210, as well as the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings[99] and the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism,[100] and calls upon all States to enact, as appropriate, the domestic legislation necessary to implement the provisions of those conventions and protocols, to ensure that the jurisdiction of their courts enables them to bring to trial the perpetrators of terrorist acts, and to cooperate with and provide support and assistance to other States and relevant international and regional organizations to that end;

8. *Urges* States to cooperate with the Secretary-General and with one another, as well as with interested intergovernmental organizations, with a view to ensuring, where appropriate within existing mandates, that technical and other expert advice is provided to those States requiring and requesting assistance in becoming parties to the conventions and protocols referred to in paragraph 7 above;

9. *Notes with appreciation and satisfaction* that, consistent with the call contained in paragraph 7 of resolution 56/88, a number of States became parties to the relevant conventions and protocols referred to therein, thereby realizing the objective of wider acceptance and implementation of those conventions;

10. *Reaffirms* the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 49/60, and the Declaration to Supplement the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, contained in the annex to resolution 51/210, and calls upon all States to implement them;

11. *Urges* all States and the Secretary-General, in their efforts to prevent international terrorism, to make the best use of the existing institutions of the United Nations;

12. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in Vienna, after reviewing existing possibilities within the United Nations system, to enhance, through its mandate, the capabilities of the United Nations in the prevention of terrorism, and in this context takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat,[101] requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001;

13. *Welcomes also* the publication by the Secretariat of the volume of the United Nations Legislative Series entitled *National Laws and Regulations on the Prevention and Suppression of International Terrorism*,[102] prepared by the Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 10 (*b*) of the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism;[103]

14. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to submit to the Secretary-General information on their national laws and regulations regarding the prevention and suppression of acts of international terrorism, and takes note in this regard of the reports of Member States to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001);

15. *Invites* regional intergovernmental organizations to submit to the Secretary-General information on the measures they have adopted at the regional level to eliminate international terrorism;

16. *Welcomes* the important progress attained in the elaboration of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism during the meetings of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 and the Working Group of the Sixth Committee established pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/88;

17. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall continue to elaborate a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as a matter of urgency, and shall continue its efforts to resolve the outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism as a means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism, and that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations;

18. *Decides also* that the Ad Hoc Committee shall meet from 31 March to 2 April 2003 to continue the elaboration of a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism, with

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[99] Resolution 52/164, annex.

[100] Resolution 54/109, annex.

[101] A/57/152 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2 and Add.2.

[102] ST/LEG/SER.B/22, part I (United Nations publication, Sales No. E/F.02.V.7).

[103] Resolution 49/60, annex.

appropriate time allocated to the continued consideration of outstanding issues relating to the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, that it shall keep on its agenda the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations to formulate a joint organized response of the international community to terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and that the work shall continue, if necessary, during the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly, within the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Ad Hoc Committee with the necessary facilities for the performance of its work;

20. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session in the event of the completion of the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism or the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism;

21. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on progress made in the implementation of its mandate;

22. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Measures to eliminate international terrorism".

RESOLUTION 57/28

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/568 and Corr.1, para. 10)[104]

57/28. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/89 of 12 December 2001 on the scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Recalling also its resolution 49/59 of 9 December 1994, by which it adopted the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,

Recalling further the letter dated 24 October 2000 addressed to the President of the Security Council on behalf of the global staff of the United Nations system,[105] drawing attention to the safety and security problems faced by United Nations and associated personnel,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General[106] and the recommendations contained therein,

Reaffirming the need to promote and ensure respect for the principles and rules of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as relevant provisions of human rights and refugee law,

Reaffirming also the obligation of all humanitarian personnel and United Nations and associated personnel to respect the national laws of the country in which they are operating, in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations,

Deeply concerned by the increasing dangers and security risks faced by United Nations and associated personnel at the field level, and mindful of the need to provide the fullest possible protection for their security,

Expressing concern that locally recruited personnel are particularly vulnerable to attacks directed at the United Nations,

Welcoming the recent increase in the number of States that have become parties to the Convention, which entered into force on 15 January 1999, and noting that the Convention has been ratified or acceded to by sixty-three States as at the date of the present resolution,

Mindful of the need to promote the universality of the Convention,

Having considered the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel,[107] established pursuant to resolution 56/89, and taking account of the discussions in the Sixth Committee,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work done by the Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

2. *Calls upon* all States to consider becoming parties to and to respect fully their obligations under the relevant international instruments, in particular the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel;

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[104] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Romania, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

[105] S/2000/1133, annex.

[106] A/55/637.

[107] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 52* (A/57/52).

3. *Recommends* that the Secretary-General continue to seek the inclusion of, and that host countries include, key provisions of the Convention, among others, those regarding the prevention of attacks against members of the operation, the establishment of such attacks as crimes punishable by law and the prosecution or extradition of offenders, in future as well as, if necessary, in existing status-of-forces, status-of-mission and host country agreements negotiated between the United Nations and those countries, mindful of the importance of the timely conclusion of such agreements;

4. *Recommends also* that, consistent with his existing authority, the Secretary-General advise the Security Council or the General Assembly, as appropriate, where in his assessment circumstances would support a declaration of exceptional risk for the purposes of article 1(*c*)(ii) of the Convention;

5. *Confirms* that, consistent with his existing authority, the Secretary-General, who has knowledge of the facts and easy access to the information, may provide information, upon the request of a State, on matters of fact relevant to the application of the Convention, such as the fact and content of any declaration of exceptional risk by the Security Council or the General Assembly or any agreement concluded between the United Nations and a humanitarian non-governmental organization or agency;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare model or standardized provisions for incorporation into the agreements concluded between the United Nations and humanitarian non-governmental organizations or agencies and, if possible, to report on progress on this issue before the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee, and to make available to Member States the names of organizations or agencies that have concluded such agreements, for the purposes of clarifying the application of the Convention to persons deployed by those organizations or agencies;

7. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and relevant bodies to continue to take such other practical measures as are within their authority and existing institutional mandates to strengthen the protection for United Nations and associated personnel, including locally recruited personnel, who are particularly vulnerable and account for the majority of casualties among United Nations or associated personnel;

8. *Decides* that the Ad Hoc Committee established under resolution 56/89 shall reconvene for one week from 24 to 28 March 2003, and shall continue the discussion on measures to enhance the existing protective legal regime for United Nations and associated personnel, including addressing the application of the Convention to all United Nations operations, taking into account the report of the Secretary-General[106] and the discussions in the Ad Hoc Committee;

9. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Committee to submit a report on its work to the General Assembly at the fifty-eighth session;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the measures taken to implement the present resolution;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel".

RESOLUTION 57/29

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/571, para. 7)[108]

57/29. Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Considering the importance of the work of Partners in Population and Development,

Taking into account the importance of greater interaction among Partners in Population and Development, Member States, and relevant bodies, programmes and agencies of the United Nations in the area of population and development,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and Partners in Population and Development,

1. *Decides* to invite Partners in Population and Development to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/30

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/572, para. 7)[109]

57/30. Observer status for the Asian Development Bank in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian Development Bank,

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[108] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Bangladesh, China, Egypt, Gambia, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

[109] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Thailand, United States of America and, Viet Nam.

1. *Decides* to invite the Asian Development Bank to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/31

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/573, para. 7)[110]

57/31. Observer status for the International Centre for Migration Policy Development in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Centre for Migration Policy Development,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Centre for Migration Policy Development to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

RESOLUTION 57/32

Adopted at the 52nd plenary meeting, on 19 November 2002, without a vote, on the recommendation of the Committee (A/57/574, para. 7)[111]

57/32. Observer status for the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994,

Considering the unique status of the Inter-Parliamentary Union as a world organization of parliaments,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

1. *Decides* to invite the Inter-Parliamentary Union to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.

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[110] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Australia, Austria, Denmark, Finland, Hungary, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Zambia.

[111] The draft resolution recommended in the report was sponsored in the Committee by: Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

Annex I

Allocation of agenda items

Plenary meetings

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly (item 1).
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation (item 2).
3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly (item 3):
   (*a*) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (*b*) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly (item 4).
5. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly (item 6).
6. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations (item 7).
7. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work: reports of the General Committee (item 8).
8. General debate (item 9).
9. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization (item 10).
10. Report of the Security Council (item 11).
11. Report of the Economic and Social Council (item 12).
12. Report of the International Court of Justice (item 13).
13. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 14).
14. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs (item 15):
    (*a*) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
    (*b*) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council;
    (*c*) Election of five members of the International Court of Justice.
15. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections: election of twenty members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (item 16).
16. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):
    (*f*) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit;
    (*g*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;
    (*h*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development;
    (*i*) Confirmation of the appointment of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.
17. Election of judges of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 18).
18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 19).
19. Admission of new Members to the United Nations (item 20).

20. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance (item 21):

    (*a*) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (*b*) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (*c*) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (*d*) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.

21. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations (item 22):

    (*a*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization;

    (*b*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (*c*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Caribbean Community;

    (*d*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

    (*e*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Community of Central African States;

    (*f*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Economic Cooperation Organization;

    (*g*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

    (*h*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union;

    (*i*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Latin American Economic System;

    (*j*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States;

    (*k*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons;

    (*l*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

    (*m*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;

    (*n*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of American States;

    (*o*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

    (*p*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Pacific Islands Forum;

    (*q*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization;

    (*r*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Southern African Development Community;

    (*s*) Cooperation between the United Nations and the Association of South-East Asian Nations.

22. United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage (item 23).

23. Culture of peace (item 24).

24. Oceans and the law of the sea (item 25):

    (*a*) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (*b*) Large-scale pelagic drift-net fishing, unauthorized fishing in zones of national jurisdiction and on the high seas/illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, fisheries by-catch and discards, and other developments;

    (*c*) Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks.

25. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba (item 26).
26. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict (item 27).
27. Assistance in mine action (item 28).
28. 2001–2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, particularly in Africa (item 29).
29. The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order (item 30).
30. Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion (item 31).
31. Information and communication technologies for development (item 32).
32. Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (item 33).
33. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 34).
34. Question of Palestine (item 35).
35. The situation in the Middle East (item 36).
36. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (item 37).
37. The situation in Central America: procedures for the establishment of a firm and lasting peace and progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development (item 38).
38. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 39).
39. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters (item 40).
40. Final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s (item 41):
    (*a*) Final review and appraisal of the implementation of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s;
    (*b*) Implementation of the programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa.
41. Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS (item 42).
42. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit (item 44).
43. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 45).
44. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 46).
45. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 (item 47).
46. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security (item 48).
47. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait (item 49).
48. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations (item 50).
49. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development (item 51).

50. Strengthening of the United Nations system (item 52).
51. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly (item 53).
52. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 55).
53. Peace, security and reunification on the Korean peninsula (item 56).
54. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 98).
55. South American Zone of Peace and Cooperation (item 167).
56. International Year of Rice, 2004 (item 168).

First Committee

(DISARMAMENT AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY COMMITTEE)

1. Reduction of military budgets (item 57).
2. Prohibition of the development and manufacture of new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons: report of the Conference on Disarmament (item 58).
3. Question of Antarctica (item 59).
4. Maintenance of international security – good-neighbourliness, stability and development in South-Eastern Europe (item 60).
5. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security (item 61).
6. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament (item 62).
7. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East (item 63).
8. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons (item 64).
9. Prevention of an arms race in outer space (item 65).
10. General and complete disarmament (item 66):
    - (*a*) Notification of nuclear tests;
    - (*b*) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;
    - (*c*) United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education;
    - (*d*) Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol;
    - (*e*) Mongolia's international security and nuclear-weapon-free status;
    - (*f*) Preservation of and compliance with the Treaty on the Limitation of Anti-Ballistic Missile Systems;
    - (*g*) Missiles;
    - (*h*) Reducing nuclear danger;
    - (*i*) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
    - (*j*) Relationship between disarmament and development;
    - (*k*) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
    - (*l*) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;
    - (*m*) Regional disarmament;

(*n*) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(*o*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(*p*) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

(*q*) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

(*r*) Transparency in armaments;

(*s*) Nuclear disarmament;

(*t*) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

(*u*) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

(*v*) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(*w*) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

(*x*) United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament.

11. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly (item 67):

(*a*) United Nations Disarmament Information Programme;

(*b*) United Nations disarmament fellowship, training and advisory services;

(*c*) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(*d*) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons;

(*e*) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(*f*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(*g*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(*h*) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific.

12. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session (item 68):

(*a*) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

(*b*) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

(*c*) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

(*d*) Report of the Conference on Disarmament.

13. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East (item 69).

14. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects (item 70).

15. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region (item 71).

16. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (item 72).

17. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (item 73).

18. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

Special Political and Decolonization Committee
(Fourth Committee)

1. Effects of atomic radiation (item 74).
2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space (item 75).
3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (item 76).
4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories (item 77).
5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects (item 78).
6. Questions relating to information (item 79).
7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations (item 80).
8. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 81).
9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (item 82).
10. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapter VII (section D)] (item 12).
11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories (item 83).
12. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (item 19).
13. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (item 39).
14. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

Second Committee

(ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL COMMITTEE)

1. Macroeconomic policy questions (item 84):
    - (*a*) International trade and development;
    - (*b*) Commodities;
    - (*c*) Science and technology for development;
    - (*d*) External debt crisis and development;
    - (*e*) International financial system and development;
    - (*f*) Preparations for the International Ministerial Conference on Transit Transport Cooperation.
2. Sectoral policy questions (item 85):
    - (*a*) Industrial development cooperation;
    - (*b*) Business and development;
    - (*c*) Preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin.
3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (item 86):
    - (*a*) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade;

   (*b*) Integration of the economies in transition into the world economy;

   (*c*) Culture and development;

   (*d*) High-level dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership.

4. Environment and sustainable development (item 87):

   (*a*) Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21;

   (*b*) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

   (*c*) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

   (*d*) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa;

   (*e*) Convention on Biological Diversity;

   (*f*) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States.

5. Operational activities for development (item 88).

6. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997–2006) (item 89).

7. Training and research (item 90):

   (*a*) United Nations University;

   (*b*) [illegible]ed Nations Institute for Training and Research.

8. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (item 91).

9. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields (item 92).

10. High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development (item 93).

11. Globalization and interdependence (item 94).

12. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly (item 95).

13. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (item 96).

14. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children (item 43).

15. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I to V, VII (sections A to H) and IX] (item 12).

16. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

Third Committee

(SOCIAL, HUMANITARIAN AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE)

1. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (item 97).

2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (item 98).

3. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (item 99).

4. Crime prevention and criminal justice (item 100).

5. International drug control (item 101).

6. Advancement of women (item 102).

7. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (item 103).

8. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions (item 104).

9. Promotion and protection of the rights of children (item 105).

10. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People (item 106).

11. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination (item 107):

    (*a*) Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;

    (*b*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

12. Right of peoples to self-determination (item 108).

13. Human rights questions (item 109):

    (*a*) Implementation of human rights instruments;

    (*b*) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (*c*) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

    (*d*) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

    (*e*) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

14. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children (item 43).

15. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, III, V, VII (sections A to C and I) and IX] (item 12).

16. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

Fifth Committee

(ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY COMMITTEE)

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors (item 110):

    (*a*) United Nations;

    (*b*) United Nations Development Programme;

    (*c*) United Nations Children's Fund;

    (*d*) United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East;

    (*e*) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

    (*f*) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

    (*g*) Fund of the United Nations Environment Programme;

    (*h*) United Nations Population Fund;

    (*i*) United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation;

    (*j*) Fund of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

    (*k*) United Nations Office for Project Services;

    (*l*) International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991;

(*m*) International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994.

2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (item 111).
3. Programme budget for the biennium 2002–2003 (item 112).
4. Programme planning (item 113).
5. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations (item 114).
6. Administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (item 115).
7. Pattern of conferences (item 116).
8. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations (item 117).
9. Human resources management (item 118).
10. Joint Inspection Unit (item 119).
11. United Nations common system (item 120).
12. United Nations pension system (item 121).
13. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (item 122).
14. Administration of justice at the United Nations (item 123).
15. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (item 124).
16. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 (item 125).
17. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations (item 126).
18. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East (item 127):
    (*a*) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;
    (*b*) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.
19. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (item 128).
20. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor and the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor (item 129).
21. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (item 130).
22. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola (item 131).
23. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) (item 132):
    (*a*) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;
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24. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor (item 133).
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26. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (item 135).
27. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (item 136).
28. Financing of the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force (item 137).
29. Financing and liquidation of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (item 138).
30. Financing of the United Nations Protection Force, the United Nations Confidence Restoration Operation in Croatia, the United Nations Preventive Deployment Force and the United Nations Peace Forces headquarters (item 139).
31. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Somalia II (item 140).
32. Financing of the United Nations Operation in Mozambique (item 141).
33. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (item 142).
34. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia (item 143).
35. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Haiti (item 144).
36. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia (item 145).
37. Financing of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda (item 146).
38. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (item 147).
39. Financing of the United Nations Transitional Administration for Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium and the Civilian Police Support Group (item 148).
40. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Transition Mission in Haiti and the United Nations Civilian Police Mission in Haiti (item 149).
41. Financing of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (item 150).
42. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (item 151).
43. Report of the Economic and Social Council [chapters I, VII (sections B and C) and IX] (item 12).
44. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments (item 17):
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    - (*b*) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;
    - (*c*) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;
    - (*d*) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;
    - (*e*) International Civil Service Commission:
        - (i) Appointment of members of the Commission;
        - (ii) Designation of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Commission;
    - (*f*) Appointment of a member of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee.
45. Election of the officers of the Main Committees (item 5).

Sixth Committee

(LEGAL COMMITTEE)

1. Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts (item 152).
2. Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives (item 153).

3. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property (item 154).
4. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-fifth session (item 155).
5. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fourth session (item 156).
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8. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization (item 159).
9. Measures to eliminate international terrorism (item 160).
10. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel (item 161).
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12. Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly (item 163).
13. Observer status for Partners in Population and Development in the General Assembly (item 164).
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16. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations (item 22):
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57/4.	Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations				
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57/5	Elimination of unilateral extraterritorial coercive economic measures as a means of political and economic compulsion	31	31st	16 October 2002	5
57/6	International Decade for a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence for the Children of the World, 2001–2010	24	43rd	4 November 2002	6
57/7.	Final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development	41 (*a*)	43rd	4 November 2002	8
57/8.	Open-ended Panel of the General Assembly on "Afghanistan: one year later"	21 (*d*) and 37	47th	11 November 2002	11
57/9.	Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency	14	47th	11 November 2002	12
57/10.	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	34	47th	11 November 2002	16
57/11.	Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba	26	48th	12 November 2002	18
57/12.	The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order	30	50th	14 November 2002	19
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57/14.	Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts	152	52nd	19 November 2002	494
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57/16.	Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property	154	52nd	19 November 2002	497
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